

EXHIBIT 7

Part 1

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9

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Table of Contents

Editorial and Production Staff	iv
Guide to the Dictionary	v
Dictionary of the English Language	1
Picture Credits	949

Tables and Charts

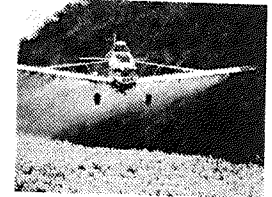
Bible	84
Calendar	123
Currency	211
Elements	276–277
Measurement	522–523

form into a crest. **2.** To reach the crest (of). [*< Lat. crista.*]
crest-fall-en (krĕst'fô'lən) *adj.* Dispirited; dejected.
Cre-ta-ceous (krĭ-tă'shəs) *Geol.* *adj.* Of or being the 3rd and last period of the Mesozoic Era, marked by the development of flowering plants and the extinction of the dinosaurs. *n.* The Cretaceous Period. [*< Lat. crĕta, chalk.*]
Crete (krĕt) An island of SE Greece in the E Mediterranean Sea. —**Cre'tan** *adj.* & *n.*
cre-tin (krĕt'n) *n.* A person afflicted with cretinism. [*< VLat. *christianus, Christian.*]
cre-tin-ism (krĕt'n-iz'm) *n.* A thyroid deficiency resulting in dwarfed stature and mental retardation.
cre-vasse (krĭ-văs') *n.* 1. A deep fissure, as in a glacier. 2. A breach in a levee. [*< OFr. crevace, CREVICE.*]
crevice (krĕv'is) *n.* A narrow crack. [*< OFr. crevace < Lat. crepare, to crack.*]
crew¹ (krō) *n.* 1. A group of people working together. 2. The personnel operating a boat, ship, or aircraft. 3. A team of rowers. [*ME creue, military reinforcement.*]
crew² (krō) *v.* Chiefly Brit. Pt. of **crow**.
crew-cut or **crew cut** (krō'kūt') *n.* A closely cropped haircut.
crewed (krōd) *adj.* Operated by an onboard crew: a **crewed space flight**.
crew-el (krō'el) *n.* Loosely twisted worsted yarn used for embroidery. [*ME crule.*]
crew neck *n.* A round, close-fitting neckline.
crib (krĭb) *n.* 1. A child's bed with high sides. 2. A small building for storing corn. 3. A rack or trough for fodder. **4a.** Plagiarism. **b.** See **pony** (sense 2). **5.** Slang One's home. *v.*
cribbed, crib-bing 1. To confine in or as if in a crib. 2. To plagiarize. [*< OE crĭbb, manger.*]
—crib/ber *n.*
crib-bage (krĭb'ij) *n.* A card game scored by inserting pegs into holes on a board. [*< CRIB.*]
crib death *n.* See **sudden infant death syndrome**.
crick¹ (krĭk) *n.* A painful cramp, as in the neck. [*ME crĭke.*]
crick² (krĭk) *n.* Regional A creek.
Crick, Francis Harry Compton 1916–2004. British molecular biologist.
crick-et¹ (krĭk'it) *n.* A leaping insect, the male of which produces a shrill chirping sound. [*< OFr. criquet < criquer, to click.*]
crick-et² (krĭk'it) *n.* A game played with bats, a ball, and wickets by two teams of 11 players each. [*Poss. < OFr. criquet, target stick in a bowling game.*] —**crick/et-er, crick/et-er'** (-i-tĭr') *n.*
crier (krĭ'ar) *n.* 1. One who cries or weeps. 2. One who shouts out public announcements.
crime (krĭm) *n.* 1. An act committed or omitted in violation of a law. 2. An unjust or senseless act. [*< Lat. crĭmen.*]
Cri-me-a (krĭ-mĕ'ə, krĭ-) A region and peninsula of S Ukraine on the Black Sea and Sea of Azov. —**Cri-me'an** *adj.*
crim-i-nal (krĭm'ə-nəl) *adj.* 1. Of or involving crime. 2. Guilty of crime. *n.* One who has committed a crime. —**crim-i-nal-i-ty** (-nəl'i-tē) *n.* —**crim-i-nal-ly** *adv.*
crim-i-nal-ize (krĭm'ə-nə-liz') *v.* -ized, -iz-

ing To make criminal; outlaw. —**crim-i-nal-i-za-tion** *n.*
crim-i-nol-o-gy (krĭm'ə-nōl'ə-jē) *n.* The scientific study of crime and criminals. —**crim-i-nol-o-gist** *n.*
crimp (krĭmp) *v.* 1. To press or pinch into small folds or ridges. 2. To curl (hair). 3. To have a hampering or obstructive effect on. *n.* 1. The act of crimping. 2. An obstructing agent or force. [*Du. or LGer. krĭmpen.*] —**crimp'er** *n.*
crim-son (krĭm'zən) *n.* A vivid purplish red. [*< Ar. qirmizi.*] —**crim-son** *adj.* & *v.*
cringe (krĭnj) *v.* **cringed, cring-ing** To shrink back, as in fear. [*ME crenge.*] —**cringe** *n.*
crin-kle (krĭng'kəl) *v.* -kled, -kling To form wrinkles or ripples. [*< ME crinkled, wrinkled.*] —**crin'kle** *n.* —**crin'kly** *adj.*
crin-o-line (krĭn'ə-lĭn) *n.* 1. A stiff fabric used to line garments. 2. A petticoat made of this fabric. [*Fr. < Ital. crinolino.*]
crip-ple (krĭp'əl) *n.* One that is partially disabled or lame. *v.* -pled, -pling To disable or damage. [*< OE croupl.*]
Usage: The noun **cripple** and the adjective **crippled** are generally acceptable when applied to an animal, but are considered offensive when applied to a disabled person.
cri-sis (krĭ'sis) *n., pl. -ses* (-sēz) 1. A crucial point or situation. 2. An emotionally stressful event or traumatic change in a person's life. [*< Gk. krisis < krinein, to separate.*]
crisp (krĭsp) *adj.* -er, -est 1. Firm but easily broken; brittle. 2. Firm and fresh: **crisp celery**. 3. Bracing; invigorating. 4. Clear and concise: **a crisp reply**. *n.* A dessert of fruit baked with a sweet crumbly topping. [*< OE curly < Lat. crispus.*] —**crisp** *v.* —**crisp/ly** *adv.* —**crisp-ness** *n.* —**crisp'y** *adj.*
criss-cross (krĭs'krōs', -krōs') *v.* 1. To mark with crossing lines. 2. To move back and forth through or over. *n.* A pattern of crossing lines. [*< ME Crĭst crosse, mark of a cross.*] —**criss'-cross'** *adj.* & *adv.*
cri-te-ri-on (krĭ-tĭr'ē-ən) *n., pl. -te-ri-a* (-tĭr'ē-ə) or **-te-ri-ons** A standard or test on which a judgment can be based. [*Gk. kritĕrion.*]
Usage: Like **phenomenon**, **criterion** is a singular noun. The plural is generally **criteria**, although **criteria** is sometimes also used.
crit-ic (krĭt'ik) *n.* 1. One who analyzes, interprets, or evaluates artistic works. 2. A fault-finder. [*< Gk. kritikos, able to discern < krinein, to separate.*]
crit-ical (krĭt'ik-əl) *adj.* 1. Judging severely and finding fault: **critical of the government**. 2. Reflecting careful analysis and judgment: **critical appreciation**. 3. Of or relating to critics or criticism. 4. Crucial: **a critical point in the campaign**. See Synonyms at **decisive**. 5. Extremely important or essential. See Synonyms at **indispensable**. 6. Of or forming a crisis: **a critical food shortage**. —**crit/i-cal-ly** *adv.*
crit-i-cism (krĭt'is-iz'm) *n.* 1. The act of criticizing, esp. adversely. 2. A critical comment or judgment. 3. The practice of analyzing, interpreting, or evaluating artistic works. 4. A critical essay; critique.
crit-i-cize (krĭt'is-iz') *v.* -cized, -cizing 1. To find fault with. 2. To judge the merits and faults of; evaluate. —**crit/i-ciz'er** *n.*

crit-ique (krĭ-tĕk') *n.* A critical review or commentary. [*Fr.*] —**crit-ique'** *v.*
crit-ter (krĭt'ar) *n.* Informal A creature, esp. a domestic animal. [*< CREATURE.*]
croak (krōk) *n.* A low hoarse sound, as that of a frog. *v.* 1. To utter a croak. 2. Slang To die. [*< ME croken, to croak.*]
Croat (krō'āt', -āt', krōt) *n.* 1. A native or inhabitant of Croatia. 2. Serbo-Croatian as used by the Croats.
Cro-a-tia (krō-ā'shə) A country of SE Europe along the NE Adriatic coast. Cap. Zagreb.
Cro-a-tian (krō-ā'shan) *n.* 1. See **Croat**. 2. The Slavic language of the Croats. —**Cro-a'tian** *adj.*
Cro-ce (krō'chĕ), **Benedetto** 1866–1952. Italian philosopher, historian, and critic.
cro-chet (krō-shā') *v.* -cheted (-shād'), -chet-ing (-shā'ing) To make by looping thread with a hooked needle: **crochet a scarf**. [*< OFr. hook.*]
crock (krōk) *n.* An earthenware vessel. [*< OE crocc.*]
crock-ery (krōk'ə-rĕ) *n.* Earthenware.
Crock-ett (krōk'it), **David** "Davy," 1786–1836. Amer. pioneer and politician.
croc-o-dile (krōk'ə-dĭl') *n.* A large tropical aquatic reptile with armorlike skin and long tapering jaws. [*< Gk. krokodilos.*] —**croc'o-dil'i-an** (krōk'ə-dĭl'ē-ən, -dĭl'yən) *adj.* & *n.*
crocodile tears *pl.n.* An insincere display of grief.
cro-cus (krō'kəs) *n., pl. -cus-es* or **-ci** (-sĭ, -kĭ) A variously colored spring or fall flower grown from corms. [*< Gk. krokos.*]
Cro-e-sus (krĕ'səs) d. c. 546 BC. Last king of Lydia (560–546).
Crohn's disease (krōnz) *n.* A form of ileitis marked by abdominal pain, ulceration, and fibrous tissue buildup. [After Burrill Bernard Crohn (1884–1983).]
crois-sant (krwā-sānt', krō-sānt') *n.* A rich, crescent-shaped roll. [*< OFr. creissant, CRES-CENT.*]
Cro-Mag-non (krō-māg'nən, -mān'yən) *n.* An early form of modern human of Europe in the late Pleistocene. [After Cro-Magnon cave, France.] —**Cro-Mag'non** *adj.*
Crom-well (krōm'wĕl', -wəl, krūm'-), **Oliver** 1599–1658. English military, political, and religious leader. —**Crom-well'i-an** *adj.*
drone (krōn) *n.* 1. Derogatory An old woman, esp. one considered ugly. 2. A woman venerated for experience and wisdom. [*< VLat. *carōnia, CARRION.*]
drōny (krō'nĕ) *n., pl. -nies* A close friend or companion. [*Perh. < Gk. khronios, long-lasting < khronos, time.*]
drōny-ism (krō'nĕ-iz'm) *n.* Favoritism shown to old friends without regard for their qualifications.
crook (krōök) *n.* 1. A bent or curved implement, such as a staff. 2. A curve or bend. 3. Informal One who makes a living by crime or deceit. *v.* To curve or bend. [*< ON krōkr.*]
crook-ed (krōök'id) *adj.* 1. Having bends or curves. 2. Askew: **Your necktie is crooked**. 3. Informal Dishonest; fraudulent. —**crook/ed-ly** *adv.* —**crook/ed-ness** *n.*
croon (krōon) *v.* To hum or sing softly. [*< MDu. krōnen, to lament.*] —**croon** *n.* —**croon'er** *n.*

crop (krōp) *n.* **1a.** A particular kind of agricultural produce. **b.** The total yield of such produce. 2. A group of things or people arriving together: **the new crop of college graduates**. 3. A short haircut. **4a.** A short riding whip. **b.** The stock of a whip. 5. Zool. A pouchlike enlargement of a bird's gullet in which food is digested or stored. *v.* **cropped, cropping** 1. To cut or bite off the tops of. 2. To cut very short. 3. To trim. —**phrasal verb: crop up** To appear unexpectedly. [*< OE cropp, ear of grain.*]
crop-dust-ing (krōp'dūs'ting) *n.* The process of spraying crops, as with insecticides, from an aircraft. —**crop/-dust'** *v.*



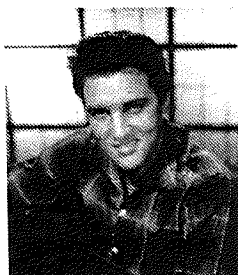
crop-dusting

cro-quet (krō-kā') *n.* An outdoor game in which players drive wooden balls through wickets using mallets. [*< ONFr. crook.*]
cro-quette (krō-kĕt') *n.* A small cake of minced food usu. fried in deep fat. [*Fr.*]
cro-sier or **cro-zier** (krō'zhār) *n.* A crooked staff, esp. of a bishop. [*< OFr. crosse.*]
cross (krōs, krōs) *n.* 1. An upright post with a transverse piece near the top. **2a.** often **Cross** The cross upon which Jesus was crucified. **b.** Any of various modifications of the cross design. 3. A trial or affliction. See Synonyms at **burden**. 4. A pattern formed by the intersection of two lines. 5. One that combines the qualities of two other things. **6. Biol. a.** A hybrid plant or animal. **b.** A hybridization. *v.* 1. To go or extend across. 2. To intersect. 3. To draw a line across. 4. To place crosswise. 5. To encounter in passing. 6. To thwart or obstruct. 7. *Biol.* To breed by hybridizing. *adj.* 1. Lying crosswise. 2. Contrary or opposing. 3. Showing ill humor; annoyed. 4. Hybrid. [*< Lat. crux.*] —**cross'er** *n.* —**cross/ly** *adv.* —**cross/ness** *n.*
cross-bar (krōs'bār', krōs'-) *n.* A horizontal bar or line.
cross-bones (krōs'bōnz', krōs'-) *pl.n.* Two bones placed crosswise, usu. under a skull.
cross-bow (krōs'bō', krōs'-) *n.* A weapon consisting of a bow fixed crosswise on a wooden stock with a trigger mechanism.
cross-breed (krōs'brĕd', krōs'-) *v.* To hybridize. *n.* A hybrid.
cross-coun-try (krōs'kūn'trĕ, krōs'-) *adj.* 1. Moving across open country rather than roads. 2. From one side of a country to the opposite side. —**cross/-coun/try** *adv.*
cross-country skiing *n.* The sport of skiing over the countryside rather than downhill.
cross-cul-tural (krōs'kūl'char-əl, krōs'-) *adj.* Involving two or more different cultures. —**cross/-cul/tur-al-ly** *adv.*
cross-cur-rent (krōs'kūr'ənt, -kūr'-, krōs'-) *n.* 1. A current flowing across another. 2. A conflicting tendency.

bly or meeting. 2. often **President** The chief executive of a republic, esp. of the US. 3. The chief officer of an organization, as a corporation. —**pres'i-den-cy** *n.* —**pres'i-den-tial** (-dén'shəl) *adj.* —**pres'i-dent-ship** *n.*

Pres-i-dents' Day or **Pre-si-dents Day** (préz'i-dants, -dén-ts) *n.* The 3rd Monday in February, a US legal holiday in honor of US presidents, esp. George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, who were born in February.

Pres-ley (préz'lē, préz'l-) *n.* **Elvis Aron** or **Aaron** "the King" 1935–77. Amer. rock musician.



Elvis Presley
photographed in 1963

press (prēs) *v.* 1a. To exert steady weight or force against; bear down on. b. To move by applying pressure: *press a piano key*. 2. To squeeze the juice or other contents from. 3a. To reshape or make compact by applying steady force: *press the clay in a mold*. b. To iron (e.g., clothing). 4. To bear down on or attack: *The army pressed the rebels for months*. 5. To insist upon or put forward insistently: *press a claim*. 6. To try to influence or persuade, as by insistent arguments; pressure or entreat: *pressed her for a reply*. 7. To advance eagerly; move forward urgently: *We pressed through the crowd to get to the bus*. 8. To assemble in large numbers; crowd: *Fans pressed around the movie star*. 9. To continue a course of action, esp. in spite of difficulties. *n.* 1. Any of various machines or devices that apply pressure. 2. A printing press. 3. A place or establishment where matter is printed. 4. The art, method, or business of printing. 5a. The communications media considered as a whole, esp. the agencies that collect, publish, transmit, or broadcast news to the public. b. News disseminated to the public in printed, broadcast, or electronic form: *kept the scandal out of the press*. c. The people involved in the media, as news reporters and broadcasters. 6. A large gathering; crowd: *lost our friend in the press of people*. 7. An act of applying pressure: *the press of a button*. 8. The urgency of business or matters. [*< Lat. premere, press-.*]

press agent *n.* A person employed to arrange advertising and publicity, as for a performer or business. —**press a'gent-ry** *n.*

press conference *n.* An interview held for news reporters by a political figure or famous person.

press-ing (prēs'ing) *adj.* Demanding immediate attention; urgent. —**press'ing-ly** *adv.*

press-room (prēs'rōm', -rōm') *n.* The room in a printing or newspaper publishing estab-

lishment that contains the presses.

pres-sure (prēsh'ar) *n.* 1. The act of pressing or the condition of being pressed. 2. The application of continuous force by one body on another that it is touching. 3. Phys. Force applied uniformly over a surface, measured as force per unit of area. 4. Force exerted by the weight of the atmosphere. 5a. A constraining influence: *pressure to conform*. b. An influence acting as a source of distress or hardship: *economic pressures*. 6. A physical sensation produced by compression of a part of the body. *v.* **-sured, -sur-ing** To exert pressure on. [*< Lat. premere, press-.*]

pressure group *n.* A group that endeavors to influence public policy.

pressure suit *n.* A garment worn in high-altitude aircraft or in spacecraft to compensate for low-pressure conditions.

pres-sur-ize (prēsh'ə-rīz') *v.* **-ized, -iz-ing** To maintain normal air pressure in (an enclosure, as an aircraft or submarine). —**pres'sur-i-za-tion** *n.* —**pres'sur-iz'er** *n.*

pres-ti-dig-i-ta-tion (prēs'ti-dij'i-tā'shən) *n.* Sleight of hand. [*Fr.*] —**pres'ti-dig'i-ta'tor** *n.*

pres-tige (prē-stēzh', -stēj') *n.* 1. The level of respect at which one is regarded by others; standing. 2. Good reputation; honor. [*< Lat. praestigia, tricks.*] —**pres'ti-gious** (-stēj'as, -stij'as) *adj.*

pres-to (prēs'tō) *adv.* 1. *Mus.* In rapid tempo. 2. Suddenly; right away. [*Ital.*] —**pres'to** *adj.*

pre-sume (pri-zōom') *v.* **-sumed, -sum-ing** 1. To take for granted; assume. 2. To act presumptuously or take unwarranted advantage of something. [*< LLat. praesumere, anticipate.*] —**pre-sum'a-ble** *adj.* —**pre-sum'a-bly** *adv.*

pre-sump-tion (pri-zūmp'shən) *n.* 1. Behavior or attitude that is boldly arrogant or offensive; effrontery. 2. A condition or basis for accepting or presuming. —**pre-sump'tive** *adj.*

pre-sump-tu-ous (pri-zūmp'chōō-as) *adj.* Going beyond what is right or proper; excessively forward. —**pre-sump'tu-ous-ly** *adv.* —**pre-sump'tu-ous-ness** *n.*

pre-sup-pose (prē'sā-pōz') *v.* **-posed, -pos-ing** 1. To believe or suppose in advance. 2. To require or involve necessarily as an antecedent condition. —**pre-sup'po-si-tion** (-sūp'ə-zish'ən) *n.*

pre-teen (prē'tēn') *adj.* Of or designed for preadolescent children. —**pre'teen'** *n.*

pre-tend (pri-tēnd') *v.* 1. To give a false appearance of; feign. 2. To claim or allege insincerely or falsely. 3. To make believe. 4. To lay claim to: *pretends to gourmet tastes*. [*< Lat. praetendere.*] —**pre-tend'er** *n.*

pre-tense (prē'tēns', pri-tēns') *n.* 1a. A false appearance or action intended to deceive. b. A feigned reason or excuse; pretext. 2a. Pretentiousness; ostentation. b. A studied show; affectation. 3. A claim to a right, esp. a false one. [*< Lat. praetendere, assert.*]

pre-ten-sion (pri-tēn'shən) *n.* 1. A specious allegation; pretext. 2. A claim to something, such as a skill. 3. The unwarranted assumption that one is deserving of merit; pretentiousness.

pre-ten-tious (pri-tēn'shəs) *adj.* 1. Claiming that or behaving as if one is deserving of merit when such is not the case. 2. Showing or betraying an attitude of superiority. 3. Extrava-

gantly showy; ostentatious. See Synonyms at **showy**. —**pre-ten'tious-ly** *adv.* —**pre-ten'tious-ness** *n.*

pret-er-ite or **pret-er-it** (prēt'ər-it) *adj.* Of or being the verb tense that describes a past action or state. [*< Lat. praeterire, go by.*] —**pret'er-ite** *n.*

pre-ter-nat-u-ral (prē'tər-nāch'ər-əl, -nāch'rəl) *adj.* 1. Extraordinary. 2. Supernatural. [*< Lat. praeter nātūrām, beyond nature.*] —**pre'ter-nat'u-ral-ly** *adv.* —**pre'ter-nat'u-ral-ness** *n.*

pre-text (prē'tēkst') *n.* An excuse given to hide the real reason for something. [*Lat. praetextum < praetexere, disguise: PRE- + texere, weave.*]

pre-text-ing (prē'tēk'st-ing) *n.* Impersonating another person or otherwise engaging in misrepresentation in order to obtain someone's private personal information. —**pre'text'er** *n.*

Pre-to-ri-a (pri-tōr'i-ə) The administrative capital of South Africa, in the NE part N of Johannesburg.

pret-ti-fy (prī'ti-fi') *v.* **-fied, -fy-ing** To make pretty. —**pret'ti-fi-ca-tion** *n.*

pret-ty (prītē) *adj.* **-ti-er, -ti-est** 1. Pleasing or attractive in a graceful or delicate way. 2. Clever; adroit: *a pretty maneuver*. 3. Very bad; terrible: *in a pretty predicament*. 4. Superficially attractive but lacking substance: *full of pretty phrases*. 5. Informal Considerable in size or extent: *a pretty fortune*. *adv.* To a fair degree; moderately: *a pretty good student*. *v.* **-tied, -ty-ing** To make pretty. [*< OE prattig, cunning.*] —**pret'ti-ly** *adv.* —**pret'ti-ness** *n.*

pret-zel (prēt'səl) *n.* A glazed, often salted biscuit usu. baked in the form of a loose knot or stick. [*Ger.*]

pre-vail (pri-vāl') *v.* 1. To be victorious or most powerful: *Shouldn't the public interest prevail over an individual?* 2. To be most common or frequent. 3. To use persuasion or inducement successfully. [*< Lat. praevālere, be stronger.*] —**pre-vail'er** *n.* —**pre-vail'ing** *adj.* —**pre-vail'ing-ly** *adv.*

pre-vi-a-lent (prēv'ə-lənt) *adj.* Widely or commonly occurring or practiced. [*< Lat. praevālere, be stronger.*] —**pre-vi'a-lence** *n.*

pre-var-i-cate (pri-vār'i-kāt') *v.* **-cat-ed, -cat-ing** 1. To behave evasively; equivocate. 2. To behave indecisively, usu. in delay. [*Lat. praevāricārī.*] —**pre-var'i-ca-tion** *n.* —**pre-var'i-ca'tor** *n.*

pre-vent (pri-vēnt') *v.* 1. To keep from happening: *took steps to prevent the strike*. 2. To keep (a person or thing) from doing something; impede: *prevented us from winning*. [*< Lat. praevēnīre, praevent-: PRE- + venīre, come.*] —**pre-vent'a-ble, pre-vent'i-ble** *adj.* —**pre-ven'tion** *n.*

pre-ven-tive (pri-vēn'tiv) also **pre-ven-ta-tive** (-tā-tiv) *adj.* 1. Intended or used to prevent or hinder; acting as an obstacle. 2. Preventing or slowing the course of illness or disease; prophylactic. —**pre-ven'tive** *n.*

pre-view also **pre-vue** (prē'vyōō') *n.* 1. An advance showing, as of a movie, before public presentation begins. 2. The presentation of several scenes advertising a forthcoming movie. 3. An introductory sample or overview; foretaste. —**pre'view'** *v.*

pre-vi-ous (prē'vī-əs) *adj.* Existing or occurring before something else; prior. [*< Lat. prae-*

vius, going before.] —**pre'vi-ous-ly** *adv.*

pre-vi-sion (pri-vīzh'ən) *n.* 1. A knowing in advance; foresight. 2. A prediction.

prey (prā) *n.* 1a. An animal hunted or caught by another for food. b. The collection of animals typically hunted by a predator. 2. A victim. *v.* 1. To hunt, catch, or eat as prey. 2. To victimize. 3. To exert an injurious effect. [*< Lat. praeda.*]

price (pris) *n.* 1. The sum of money asked or given for something. 2. The cost at which something is obtained. 3. The cost of bribing someone: *everyone has a price*. *v.* **priced, pric-ing** 1. To fix or establish a price for. 2. To find out the price of. [*< Lat. pretium.*]

price-less (pris'lis) *adj.* Of inestimable worth; invaluable.

price support *n.* Maintenance of prices, as of a raw material, at a certain level usu. through government intervention.

price war *n.* A period of intense competition in which each competitor tries to cut retail prices below those of the others.

pric-ey also **pric-y** (pri'sē) *adj.* **-i-er, -i-est** Informal Expensive.

prick (prik) *n.* 1a. The act of pricking. b. The sensation of being pricked. 2. A small mark or puncture made by a pointed object. 3. A pointed object, such as a thorn. *v.* 1. To puncture lightly. 2. To affect with a mental or emotional pang, as of remorse. 3. To mark or delineate on a surface by means of small punctures. —**idiom: prick up (one's) ears** To listen with attentive interest. [*< OE prica, puncture.*]

prick'er (prik'ər) *n.* A prickle or thorn.

prick-le (prik'əl) *n.* 1a. A pointed outgrowth of the epidermis of a plant. b. A spine, thorn, or other small sharp structure. 2. A tingling sensation. *v.* **-led, -ling** To tingle. [*< OE pricel.*]

prick-ly (prik'lē) *adj.* **-li-er, -li-est** 1. Having prickles. 2. Marked by tingling. 3. Causing trouble; thorny. —**prick'li-ness** *n.*

prickly heat *n.* See **heat rash**.

prickly pear *n.* 1. Any of various cacti having bristly, flattened stem segments, often colorful flowers, and ovoid prickly fruit. 2. The edible fruit of a prickly pear.

pride (prid) *n.* 1. A sense of one's proper dignity or value; self-respect. 2. Pleasure or satisfaction taken in achievement, possession, or association. 3. Arrogance; conceit. 4. The best of a group or class. 5. A group of lions. *v.* **prided, priding** To indulge (oneself) in a feeling of satisfaction. [*< OE prīd, proud.*] —**pride'ful** *adj.* —**pride'ful-ly** *adv.* —**pride'ful-ness** *n.*

prie-dieu (prē-dyōē') *n., pl. -dieus or -dieux* (-dyōēz') A narrow, desklike kneeling bench for use at prayer. [*Fr. prie-Dieu.*]

priest (prēst) *n.* 1. In many Christian churches, a member of the clergy ranking below a bishop but above a deacon. 2. A person having the authority to perform and administer religious rites. [*< OE prēost.*] —**priest'hood'** *n.* —**priest'li-ness** *n.* —**priest'ly** *adj.*

priest-ess (prē'stīs) *n.* A woman who presides over religious rites, esp. in paganism.

Priest-ley (prēst'lē), **Joseph** 1733–1804. British chemist.

prig (prig) *n.* A smugly proper or prudish person. [*?*] —**prig'gish** *adj.*

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hension, prosecution, defense, sentencing, incarceration, and supervision of those suspected of or charged with criminal offenses.

criminal law *n.* Law that deals with crimes and their punishments. —**criminal lawyer** *n.*

criminal mischief *n.* The purposeful or reckless damaging of another's property in a way that causes loss or endangerment and is prosecutable under the law.

crim-i-nate (krīm'ə-nāt') *tr.v.* **-nat-ed, -nat-ing, -nates** To incriminate. [Latin *crimīnāri*, *crimīnāt-*, to accuse < *crimen*, *crimin-*, accusation; see CRIME.] —**crim'i-na-tion** *n.* —**crim'i-na-tive**, **crim'i-na-to'ry** (-nə-tōr'ē) *adj.* —**crim'i-na-tor** *n.*

cri-mi-ni (krā-mē'nē) *n.* Variant of **cremini**.

crim-i-no-gen-ic (krīm'ə-nə-jēn'ik) also **crim-o-gen-ic** (krī'mə-) *adj.* Producing or tending to produce crime or criminality: "Alcohol is the most criminogenic substance in America" (James B. Jacobs).

crim-i-nol-o-gy (krīm'ə-nōl'ə-jē) *n.* The scientific study of crime, criminals, criminal behavior, and corrections. [Italian *criminologia*: Latin *crimen*, *crimin-*, accusation; see CRIME + Latin *-logia*, *-logy*.] —**crim'i-nol-og'i-cal** (-nə-lōj'i-kəl) *adj.* —**crim'i-nol-og'i-cal-ly** *adv.* —**crim'i-nol/o-gist** *n.*

crimp¹ (krīmp) *tr.v.* **crimped, crimp-ing, crimps** 1. To press or pinch into small regular folds or ridges: *crimp a pie crust*. 2. To bend or mold (leather) into shape. 3. To cause (hair) to form tight curls or waves. 4. To have a hampering or obstructive effect on: *Supplies of foreign oil were crimped by the embargo*. ♦ *n.* 1. The act of crimping. 2. Something made by or as if by crimping, as: **a.** Hair that has been tightly curled or waved. **b.** A series of curls, as of wool fibers. **c.** A crease or bend. 3. An obstructing or hampering agent or force: *Rising interest rates put a crimp in new home construction*. [Dutch or Low German *krimpen* < Middle Dutch or Middle Low German.] —**crimp'er** *n.*

crimp² (krīmp) *n.* A person who tricks or coerces others into service as sailors or soldiers. ♦ *tr.v.* **crimped, crimp-ing, crimps** To procure (sailors or soldiers) by trickery or coercion. [Origin unknown.]

crimp-y (krīm'pē) *adj.* **-i-er, -i-est** Full of crimps; wavy. —**crimp'i-ness** *n.*

crim-son (krīm'zən) *n.* A deep to vivid purplish red to vivid red. ♦ *tr. & intr.v.* **-soned, -son-ing, -sons** To make or become deeply or vividly red. [Middle English *cremesin* < Old Spanish *cremesin*, Old Italian *cremesino* or Medieval Latin *cremesinus*, all < Arabic *qirmiz* < *qirmiz*, kermes insect; see KERMES.] —**crim/son** *adj.*

cringe (krīnj) *intr.v.* **cringed, cring-ing, cring-es** 1. To shrink back, as in fear; cower. 2. To behave in a servile way; fawn. ♦ *n.* An act or instance of cringing. [Middle English *crengen*, to bend haughtily, probably ultimately < Old English *cringan*, to give way.]

crin-gle (krīng'gəl) *n.* A small ring or grommet of rope or metal fastened to the edge of a sail. [Low German *kringel*, diminutive of *kring*, ring < Middle Low German.]

crin-kle (krīng'kəl) *v.* **-kled, -kling, -kles** —*intr.* 1. To form wrinkles or ripples. 2. To make a soft crackling sound; rustle. —*tr.* To cause to crinkle. ♦ *n.* A wrinkle, ripple, or fold. [Middle English *crinkled*, full of turnings; akin to CRINGE.] —**crin'kly** *adj.*

crin-kle-root (krīng'kəl-rōōt', -rōōt') *n.* A woodland plant (*Cardamine diphylla*) in the mustard family, occurring in eastern North America and having a thick rhizome, trifoliate leaves, and clusters of white or pinkish flowers.

cri-noid (krī'noid') *n.* Any of various echinoderms of the class Crinoidea, including the sea lilies and feather stars, that are characterized by a cup-shaped body, feathery radiating arms, and either a stalk or a clawlike structure with which they are able to attach to a surface. [New Latin *Crinoidea*, class name: Greek *krinon*, lily + Greek *-ooidēs*, -oid.] —**cri'noid'** *adj.*

crin-o-line (krī'nə-līn) *n.* 1. A coarse stiff fabric, originally of cotton and horsehair, used especially to line and stiffen hats and garments. 2. A petticoat made of this fabric. 3. A hoop skirt. [French < Italian *crinolino*: *crino*, horsehair (< Latin *crinis*, hair; see **sker**² in App. I) + *lino*, flax (< Latin *linum*; see **lino**- in App. I).] —**crin'o-line**, **crin'o-lined** (-līnəd) *adj.*

cri-num (krī'nəm) *n.* Any of various bulbous plants of the genus *Crinum*, native to warm regions and having strap-shaped leaves and showy umbels of variously colored flowers. Also called *spider lily*. [New Latin *Crinum*, genus name < Greek *krinon*, lily.]

cri-ol-lo (krē-ō'lō, -yō) *n., pl. -los* (-lōz, -yōs) A Spanish American of European, usually Spanish ancestry. ♦ *adj.* 1. Of or relating to a criollo or criollos. 2. Indigenous to or characteristic of a Spanish-American country: *criollo cattle*; *a criollo dish*. [Spanish; see CREOLE.]

cri-o-sphinx (krī'ə-sfīngks') *n.* A sphinx with the head of a ram. [Greek *krīos*, ram; see **ker**¹ in App. I + SPHINX.]

crip (krīp) *n.* 1. **Offensive Slang** Used as a disparaging term for a person or animal that is partially disabled or unable to use a limb or limbs. 2. **Slang** Something that is easily accomplished, especially an undemanding academic course. [Short for CRIPPLE.]

crises (krīps) *interj.* Used to express annoyance, anger, or dismay. [Alteration of CRIST¹.]

crip-ple (krīp'əl) *n.* 1a. **Often Offensive** A person who is partially disabled or unable to use one or more limbs: **b.** An animal that is partially disabled or unable to use one or more limbs: *cannot race a horse that is a cripple*. 2. A damaged or defective object or device: "He... would let that cripple of a steamboat get the upper hand of him in a minute" (Joseph Conrad). ♦ *tr.v.* **-pled, -pling, -ples** 1. To cause to lose the use of a limb or limbs. 2. To disable, damage, or impair the functioning of: *a strike that crippled the factory*. [Middle English *crippel*, from Old English *cripel*.] —**crip'pler** *n.*

Crip-ple Creek (krīp'əl) A city of central Colorado in the Rocky Mountains southwest of Colorado Springs. After 1891 it was the center of a thriving gold-producing area but declined as deposits were exhausted.

cri-sis (krī'sis) *n., pl. -ses* (-sēz) 1. A crucial or decisive point or situation, especially a difficult or unstable situation involving an impending change. 2. A sudden change in the course of a disease or fever, toward either improvement or deterioration. 3. An emotionally stressful event or traumatic change in a person's life. 4. A point in a story or drama when a conflict reaches its highest tension and must be resolved. [Middle English < Latin, judgment < Greek *krisis* < *krinein*, to separate, judge; see **krei**- in App. I.]

crisis center *n.* A center staffed especially by volunteers who give support and advice to people experiencing personal crises.

crisp (krīsp) *adj.* **crisp-er, crisp-est** 1. Firm but easily broken or crumbled; brittle: *crisp potato chips*. 2. Pleasingly firm and fresh: *crisp carrot and celery sticks*. 3a. Bracing; invigorating: *crisp mountain air*. **b.** Lively; sprightly: *music with a crisp rhythm*. 4. Conspicuously clean or new: *a crisp dollar bill*. 5. Marked by clarity, conciseness, and briskness: *a crisp reply*. 6. Having small curls, waves, or ripples. Used of hair. ♦ *v.* **crisped, crisp-ing, crisps** —*tr.* To make or keep crisp. —*intr.* To become or remain crisp. ♦ *n.* 1. Something crisp or easily crumbled: *The roast was burned to a crisp*. 2. A dessert of fruit baked with a sweet crumbly topping: *apple crisp*. 3. Chiefly British A potato chip. [Middle English, curly < Old English < Latin *crispus*; see **sker**² in App. I.] —**crisp'ly** *adv.*

crisp'ness *n.*

cris-pate (krīs'pāt') also **cris-pat-ed** (-pāt'id) *adj.* Curled or ruffled, as the margins of certain leaves. [Latin *crispātus*, past participle of *crispāre*, to curl < *crispus*, curly; see **sker**² in App. I.]

cris-pa-tion (krīs-pā'shən) *n.* 1a. The act of crisping or curling. **b.** The state of being crisped or curled. 2. A slight involuntary muscular contraction, often producing a crawling sensation of the skin.

crisped (krīsp't) *adj.* Botany Crispate.

crisp-en (krīs'pən) *tr. & intr.v.* **-ened, -en-ing, -ens** To make or become crisp; crisp.

crisp-er (krīs'pər) *n.* One that crisps, especially a compartment in a refrigerator used for storing vegetables and keeping them fresh.

Cris-pin (krīs'pin), Saint. Third century AD. Roman shoemaker who with his brother Saint Crispinian sought to spread Christianity and was martyred.

crisp-y (krīs'pē) *adj.* **-i-er, -i-est** 1. Firm but easily broken or crumbled; crisp. 2. Having small curls, waves, or ripples. —**crisp'i-ness** *n.*

criss-cross (krīs'krōs', -krōs') *v.* **-crossed, -cross-ing, -cross-es** —*tr.* 1. To mark with crossing lines. 2. To move back and forth through or over: *crisscrossed the country on a speaking tour*. —*intr.* To move back and forth. ♦ *n.* 1. A mark or pattern made of crossing lines. 2. A state of being at conflicting or contrary purposes. ♦ *adj.* Crossing one another or marked by crossings. ♦ *adv.* In a manner or direction that crosses or is marked by crossings. [Alteration of Middle English *Cristcrosse*, mark of a cross, short for *Cristcross* (*me speed*), may Christ's cross (give me success).]

cris-sum (krīs'əm) *n., pl. cris-sa* (krīs'ə) The feathers or area under the tail of a bird surrounding the cloacal opening. [New Latin < Latin *crissare*, *crissare*, to move the buttocks during intercourse; see **sker**² in App. I.] —**cris'sal** (-əl) *adj.*

cris-ta (krīs'tə) *n., pl. -tae* (-tē) 1. **Anatomy** A crest or ridge, as on the top of a bone. 2. **Biology** One of the inward projections or folds of the inner membrane of a mitochondrion. [Latin; see **sker**² in App. I.]

cris-tate (krīs'tāt') also **cris-tat-ed** (-tāt'id) *adj.* Having or forming a crest or crista. [Latin *cristātus* < *crista*, tuft; see **sker**² in App. I.]

cri-te-ri-on (krī-tir'ē-ən) *n., pl. -te-ri-a* (-tir'ē-ə) or **-te-ri-ons** A standard, rule, or test on which a judgment or decision can be based. [Greek *kritērion* < *kritēs*, judge < *krinein*, to separate, judge; see **krei**- in App. I.] —**cri-te'ri-al** (-əl) *adj.*

♦ **USAGE NOTE** Like *phenomenon*, *criterion* comes directly from Greek and is singular. In standard usage, the plural is generally *criteria*, although *criteria* is sometimes used as well. Properly speaking, the form *criteria* should never be a singular noun, and phrases like *this criteria* and *single criteria* are widely viewed as erroneous. Similarly, the plural *critierias* is also viewed as a mistake and is usually edited out of published prose.

cri-te-ri-um (krī-tir'ē-əm) *n., pl. -ums* A bicycle race conducted on a short course over roads that have been closed to traffic, usually consisting of multiple laps of a winding loop.

crit-ic (krīt'ik) *n.* 1. One who forms and expresses judgments of the merits, faults, value, or truth of a matter. 2. One who specializes especially professionally in the evaluation and appreciation of literary or artistic works: *a film critic*; *a dance critic*. 3. One who tends to make harsh or carping judgments; a faultfinder. [Latin *criticus* < Greek *kritikos*, able to discern < *kritēs*, judge < *krinein*, to separate, judge; see **krei**- in App. I.]

crit-i-cal (krīt'i-kəl) *adj.* 1. Judging severely and finding fault: *a writer who is very critical of the government's foreign policy*. 2a. Relating to or characterized by criticism; reflecting careful analysis and judgment: *a critical appreciation of the filmmaker's work*. **b.** Of, relating to, or characteristic of critics: *a play that received great critical acclaim*. **c.** Including scholarly commentary and interpretation: *a critical edition of Poe's stories*. 3a. Forming or having the nature of a turning point; crucial or decisive: *a critical point in the campaign*. See Synonyms at **decisive**. **b.** Medicine Being or relating to a grave physical condition, especially of a patient. **c.** Being in or verging on a state of crisis or emergency: *a critical shortage of funds*. **d.** Being of great importance or value: *a critical time in the life of a family*. **e.** Being of such importance that it is critical to the family's well-being. See Synonyms at **critical**.



criosphinx

granite sculpture of Amun in the form of a ram, protecting King Taharga of Nubia (reigned 690–664 BC)

ā	pat	oi	boy
ā	pay	ou	out
ār	care	ōō	took
ā	father	ōō	lure
ē	pet	ōō	boot
ē	be	ū	cut
ī	pit	ūr	urge
ī	bite	th	thin
īr	pier	th	this
ō	pot	zh	vision
ō	toe	ə	about
ō	paw		item
ōr	core		

Stress marks: ' (primary); ' (secondary), as in Dictionary (dik'sha-nēr'ē)

pre-sump-tu-ous (prĭ-zŭmp'tchōo-əs) *adj.* Going beyond what is right or proper; excessively forward: *felt it was presumptuous of him to assume they had become friends*. [Middle English < Old French *presumptueux* < Late Latin *praesumptuosus*, variant of *praesumptiosus* < *praesumptiō*, presumption; see *PRESUMPTION*.] —**pre-sump'tu-ous-ly** *adv.* —**pre-sump'tu-ous-ness** *n.*

pre-sup-pose (prĕ'sā-pōz') *tr. v.* **-posed, -pos-ing, -pos-es** 1. To believe or suppose in advance: "Since he presupposes that individuals are for the most part self-interested and rapacious, Hobbes believes that political order is only possible if the king is given almost unlimited power" (Joseph Carrig). 2. To require or involve necessarily as an antecedent condition: "The term tax relief . . . presupposes a conceptual metaphor: Taxes are an affliction" (George Lakoff). —**pre-sup'po-si'tion** (-sŭp'ə-zish'ən) *n.* —**pre-sup'po-si'tion-al** *adj.*

pre-syn-ap-tic (prĕ'sĭ-năp'tik) *adj.* Situated in front of or occurring before a synapse: a presynaptic nerve fiber; a presynaptic stimulus.

pret. *abbr.* preterite

prêt-à-por-ter (prĕt'ā-pôr-tă') *adj.* Ready-to-wear. ❖ *n.* Ready-to-wear clothing. [French, translation of English *READY-TO-WEAR* : *prêt*, ready + *à*, to + *porter*, to wear.]

pre-tax (prĕ'tăks') *adj.* Existing before tax deductions: *pretax income*.

pre-teen (prĕ'tēn') *adj.* 1. Relating to or designed for children especially between the ages of 9 and 12: *preteen clothing*. 2. Being a child especially between the ages of 9 and 12; preadolescent. ❖ *n.* A preadolescent boy or girl.

pre-teen-ag-er (prĕ'tēn'ā-jər) *n.* A preteen.

pre-tence (prĕ'tēns', pri-tēns') *n.* Chiefly British Variant of *pretense*.

pre-tend (prĭ-tēnd') *v.* **-tend-ed, -tend-ing, -tends** —*tr.* 1. To give a false appearance of; feign: "You had to pretend conformity while privately pursuing high and dangerous nonconformism" (Anthony Burgess). 2. To claim or allege insincerely or falsely: *doesn't pretend to be an expert*. 3. To represent fictitiously in play; make believe: *pretended they were on a cruise*. 4. To take upon oneself; venture: *I cannot pretend to say that you are wrong*. —*intr.* 1. To feign an action or character, as in play. 2. To lay claim: *pretends to gourmet tastes*. ❖ *adj.* Informal Imitation; make-believe: *pretend money*; *pretend pearls*. [Middle English *pretenden* < Old French *pretendre* < Latin *praetendere* : *prae-*, *pre-* + *tendere*, to extend; see *ten-* in App. I.]

pre-tend-ed (prĭ-tēn'did) *adj.* 1. Not genuine or sincere; feigned: *a pretended interest in the proceedings*. 2. Supposed; alleged: *the pretended heir to the throne*. —**pre-tend-ed-ly** *adv.*

pre-tend-er (prĭ-tēn'dər) *n.* 1. One who simulates, pretends, or alleges falsely; a hypocrite or dissembler. 2. One who sets forth a claim, especially a claimant to a throne.

pre-tense (prĕ'tēns', pri-tēns') *n.* 1a. A false appearance or action intended to deceive: "He ran the back of his hand up her cheek, with the pretense of wiping away sweat" (Jonathan Safran Foer). b. A professed but feigned reason or excuse; a pretext: *left the room under the pretense of having to make a phone call*. 2. Something imagined or pretended: "Ardor had atrophied and weariness had taken its place . . . their connection was pretense" (Deborah Weisgall). 3a. The quality or state of being pretentious; ostentation: *so modest as to be free from any hint of pretense*. b. A false or studied show; an affectation: *models making a pretense of nonchalance*. 4. A claim or assertion to a right, especially a false one: "a celebrity with scarcely any pretense to talent or achievement" (Joseph Epstein). [Middle English < Old French *pretense* < Medieval Latin **praetēnsa* < Late Latin, feminine of *praetēnsus*, alteration of Latin *praetentus*, past participle of *praetendere*, to pretend, assert; see *PRETEND*.]

pre-tension (prĭ-tēn'shən) *n.* 1. A specious allegation; a pretext: "the pretension that current political arrangements serve everyone's interests" (Steven Pinker). 2a. A claim to something, such as a skill or profession: *a writer's pretensions to journalistic detachment*. b. The advancing of such a claim: *tried to prevent his pretensions to the throne*. 3a. The unwarranted assumption that one is deserving of merit, or behavior indicative of such an assumption; pretentiousness: "the popular association of wine with snobbery and pretension" (Paul Lukacs). b. An instance of pretentiousness: "[He] was a likable, boyish man from a middle-class Southern background, though his aristocratic manner and pretensions suggested otherwise" (Mary V. Dearborn).

pre-tentious (prĭ-tēn'shəs) *adj.* 1. Claiming that or behaving as if one is important or deserving of merit when such is not the case: *a pretentious socialite*. 2. Showing or betraying an attitude of superiority: *made pretentious remarks about his education*. 3. Marked by an extravagant or presumptuous outward show; ostentatious: *a pretentious house*. See *Synonyms at showy*. —**pre-tentious-ly** *adv.* —**pre-tentious-ness** *n.*

pret-er-ism (prĕt'ə-riz'əm) *n.* A Christian doctrine holding that at least some of the apocalyptic prophecies in the Bible describe events that occurred within the first century after Jesus's death, rather than events that lie still in the future. [Latin *praeter*, beyond, past; see *PRETERITE* + *-ISM*.] —**pret'er-ist** *n.*

pret-er-ite or **pret'er-it** (prĕt'ər-it) *adj.* Of, relating to, or being the verb tense that describes a past action or state. ❖ *n.* 1. The verb form expressing or describing a past action or condition. 2. A verb in the preterite form. [Middle English < Old French < Latin (*tempus*) *praeteritum*, past (tense), neuter past participle of *praeterire*, to go by : *praeter*, beyond, comparative of *prae*, before; see *per* in App. I + *ire*, to go; see *ei-* in App. I.]

pret-er-jit-ion (prĕt'ə-rish'ən) *n.* 1. The act of passing by, disregarding, or omitting. 2. The failure of a person or a power to provide for or heed his or her will. 3. Christianity The Calvinist doctrine that God neglected to designate those who would be damned, positively determining

only the elect. [Late Latin *praeteritiō*, *praeteritiōn-*, a passing over < Latin *praeteritus*, past participle of *praeterire*, to go by; see *PRETERITE*.]

pre-term (prĕ'tŭrm', prĕ-tŭrm') *adj.* Occurring or appearing before the expected time at the end of a full-term pregnancy: *preterm labor*; *a preterm infant*. ❖ *n.* An infant born prematurely.

pre-ter-mit (prĕ'tər-mit') *tr. v.* **-mit-ted, -mit-ting, -mits** 1. To disregard intentionally or allow to pass unnoticed or unmentioned. 2. To fail to do or include; omit. 3. To interrupt or terminate. [Latin *praetermittere* : *praeter*, beyond; see *PRETERITE* + *mittere*, to let go.] —**pre'ter-mis/sion** (-mish'ən) *n.* —**pre'ter-mit'ter** *n.*

pre-ter-nat-u-ral (prĕ'tər-năch'ər-əl, -năch'ral) *adj.* 1. Surpassing what is normal or usual; extraordinary: "Below his preternatural affability there is some acid and steel" (George F. Will). 2. Transcending the natural or material order; supernatural. [Medieval Latin *praeternaturalis* < Latin *praeter naturam*, beyond nature : *praeter*, beyond; see *PRETERITE* + *natura*, nature; see *NATURE*.] —**pre'ter-nat'u-ral-ism** *n.* —**pre'ter-nat'u-ral-ly** *adv.* —**pre'ter-nat'u-ral-ness** *n.*

pre-test (prĕ'tĕst') *n.* 1a. A preliminary test administered to determine a student's baseline knowledge or preparedness for an educational experience or course of study. b. A test taken for practice. 2. The advance testing of something, such as a questionnaire, product, or idea. ❖ *tr.* & *intr. v.* (prĕ-tĕst') **-test-ed, -test-ing, -tests** To subject to or conduct a pretest.

pre-text (prĕ'tĕkst') *n.* A reason or excuse given to hide the real reason for something. [Latin *praetextum* < neuter past participle of *praetextere*, to disguise : *prae-*, *pre-* + *texere*, to weave; see *teks-* in App. I.]

pre-text-ing (prĕ'tĕks'ting) *n.* Impersonating another person or otherwise engaging in misrepresentation in order to obtain an individual's private personal information. —**pre'text'er** *n.*

pre-tor (prĕ'tər) *n.* Variant of *praetor*.

Pre-to-ri-a (prĭ-tōrĭ-ə) The administrative capital of South Africa, in the northeast part of the country north of Johannesburg. Founded in 1855, it became the capital of Transvaal in 1860 and capital of South Africa in 1910.

pre-to-ri-an (prĕ-tōrĭ-ən) *adj.* Variant of *praetorian*.

Pre-to-ri-us (prĭ-tōrĭ-əs), **Andries Wilhelmus Jacobus** 1798–1853. Afrikaner soldier and politician who led the defeat of the Zulus (1838) and negotiated the independence of the Transvaal (1852). His son **Marthinus Wessels Pretorius** (1819–1901) founded Pretoria (1855) and was president of the Transvaal (1857–1871) as well as the Orange Free State (1859–1863).

pre-treat (prĕ-trĕt') *tr. v.* **-treat-ed, -treat-ing, -treats** To treat (wood or fabric, for example) beforehand. —**pre-treat'ment** *n.*

pre-tri-al (prĕ-tri'əl, -tril') *n.* A proceeding held before an official trial, especially to clarify points of law and facts. ❖ *adj.* 1. Existing or occurring before a trial: *pretrial detention*; *pretrial hearings*. 2. Of or relating to a pretrial.

pret-ti-fy (prĭt'i-fi') *tr. v.* **-fied, -fy-ing, -fies** To make pretty or prettier, especially in a superficial or insubstantial way. —**pret'ti-fi-ca'tion** (-fi-kă'shən) *n.* —**pret'ti-fi'er** *n.*

pret-ty (prĭt'ē) *adj.* **-ti-er, -ti-est** 1. Pleasing or attractive in a graceful or delicate way. See *Synonyms at beautiful*. 2. Clever; adroit: *a pretty maneuver*. 3. Very bad; terrible: *in a pretty predicament*; *a situation that has reached a pretty pass*. 4. Ostensibly or superficially attractive but lacking substance or conviction: *full of pretty phrases*. 5. Informal Considerable in size or extent: *a pretty fortune*. ❖ *adv.* 1. To a fair degree; moderately: *a pretty good student*. 2. In a pretty manner; prettily or pleasingly. ❖ *n., pl.* **-ties** 1. One that is pretty. 2. **pretties** Delicate clothing, especially lingerie. ❖ *tr. v.* **-tied, -ty-ing, -ties** To make pretty: *pretty up the house*. —**idiom**: *pretty much* For the most part; mostly: "The . . . matter was pretty much dying down" (John Strahinich). [Middle English *pretty*, clever, fine, handsome < Old English *praetig*, cunning < *praett*, trick.] —**pret'ti-ly** *adv.* —**pret'ti-ness** *n.*

pret-zel (prĕt'səl) *n.* A glazed, brittle biscuit that is usually salted on the outside and baked in the form of a loose knot or stick. [German *Brezel* < Middle High German *brēzel*, *brēzel* < Old High German *brēzila*, *brezzitella* < Medieval Latin *bracellus*, alteration of Medieval Latin **brachiellus*, diminutive of Latin *brachiiatus*, having branches like arms (in reference to the traditional form of a pretzel said to be made to look like arms folded in prayer) < *brachium*, arm < Greek *brachion*, upper arm; see *mregh-u-* in App. I.]

➤ **WORD HISTORY** In the early 1800s, the pretzel was considered a stereotypically German food, and the first known occurrences of the word *pretzel* in English date from the first half of the 1800s and are often found in descriptions of the German diet. *Pretzel* comes from a German word that is now spelled *Brezel* in modern standard German. The English spelling *pretzel* with *p* probably reflects the pronunciation of *Brezel* in one of the dialects of southern Germany. In many of these dialects, the letters *b* and *p* are pronounced identically when they occur at the beginning of a word, and they have a sound that reminds English speakers of a *p*. In Germany, pretzels are traditionally associated with Lent and Easter, and the overlapping strands of dough in a pretzel are said to represent the arms of a person with hands folded in prayer. In fact, German *Brezel* is ultimately derived from the Latin word for "arm," *brachium*. *Brezel* comes from the Medieval Latin word *bracellus*, which referred to some sort of baked item, presumably like a pretzel. This Medieval Latin word is thought to be a shortened version of another Medieval Latin word, **brachiellus*, that does not happen to be attested in any written documents preserved from the Middle Ages. In Latin, **brachiellus* would mean something like "a little thing with arms." It is the diminutive of another Medieval Latin word *braciatus* that is actually attested in surviving Medieval Latin documents and refers to some sort of baked good



pretzel

eaten by monks on holidays. This Medieval Latin word developed from the Late Latin word *brachiatus*, meaning "having boughs or branches like arms," itself a derivative of Latin *brachium*, "arm." In this way, the history of the word *pretzel* accords with the widespread tradition that a monk living in France or northern Italy invented the knotted shape of a pretzel in order to symbolize arms folded in prayer.

pre-vail (pri-väl') *intr.v.* -vailed, -vailing, -vails **1.** To be greater in strength or influence; triumph: *The home team prevailed against the visitors. Shouldn't the public interest prevail over an individual's?* **2.** To be most common or frequent; be predominant: *a region where snow and ice prevail*. **3.** To be in force, use, or effect; be current: *an ancient tradition that still prevails*. **4.** To use persuasion or inducement successfully. Often used with *on*, *upon*, or *with*. See Synonyms at **persuade**. [Middle English *prevailen* < Old French *prevailoir*, *prevail-* < Latin *praevalere*, to be stronger: *prae-*, *pre-* + *valere*, to be strong; see **wal-** in App. I.] —**pre-vail'er** *n.*

pre-vail-ing (pri-vä'ling) *adj.* **1.** Generally current; widespread: *the prevailing attitude*. **2.** Blowing usually or most frequently from a given direction: *a prevailing easterly wind*. —**pre-vail-ing-ly** *adv.*

♦ **SYNONYMS** *prevailing, prevalent, current* These adjectives denote what exists or is encountered generally at a particular time. *Prevailing* applies to what is most frequent or common at a certain time or in a certain place: *took a poll to find the prevailing opinion*. *Prevalent* suggests widespread existence or occurrence but does not imply predominance: *a belief that was prevalent in the Middle Ages*. *Current* often stresses the present time and is frequently applied to what is subject to frequent change: *current psychoanalytic theories*.

Pré-val (prä-väl'), René García Born 1943. Haitian politician who served as prime minister (1991–1993) and president (1996–2001) and was elected president again in 2006. His 1996 election marked Haiti's first peaceful transition from one democratically elected president to another since the country gained independence in 1804.

prev-a-lence (prév'ä-ləns) *n.* **1.** The condition of being prevalent. **2. Medicine** The total number of cases of a disease in a given population at a specific time.

prev-a-lent (prév'ä-lənt) *adj.* Widely or commonly occurring, existing, accepted, or practiced. See Synonyms at **prevailing**. [Middle English, very strong < Latin *praevalens*, *praevalent-*, present participle of *praevalere*, to be stronger; see **PREVAIL**.] —**prev-a-lent-ly** *adv.*

pre-var-i-ate (pri-vär'i-kät') *v.* -cat-ed, -cat-ing, -cates —*intr.* **1.** To speak or write evasively; equivocate. See Synonyms at **lie**. **2.** To behave in an evasive or indecisive manner, usually in delay: *"For months, Lennox prevaricated but at last . . . he accepted the inevitable and left Scotland for France"* (Magnus Magnusson). —*tr.* To utter or say in an evasive manner. [Latin *praevaricari*, *praevaricāt-*, to straddle across (something), collude (used of lawyers): *prae-*, *pre-* + *varicare*, to straddle (< *varicus*, straddling < *varus*, bow-legged, bandy).] —**pre-var-i-ca-tion** *n.* —**pre-var-i-ca-tor** *n.*

pre-ven-i-ence (pri-vén'yəns) *n.* **1.** The act or state of being antecedent or preventive. **2.** Attention to another's needs.

pre-ven-i-ent (pri-vén'yənt) *adj.* **1.** Coming before; preceding. **2.** Expectant; anticipatory. [Latin *praeveniens*, *praevenient-*, present participle of *praevenire*, to precede: *prae-*, *pre-* + *venire*, to come; see **gwa-** in App. I.] —**pre-ven-i-ent-ly** *adv.*

pre-vent (pri-vént') *v.* -vent-ed, -vent-ing, -vents —*tr.* **1.** To keep from happening; avert: *took steps to prevent the strike*. **2.** To keep (a person or thing) from doing something; impede: *prevented us from winning; prevented the disease from spreading*. **3. Archaic a.** To anticipate or counter in advance. **b.** To come before; precede. —*intr.* To present an obstacle: *There will be a picnic if nothing prevents*. [Middle English *pre-venten*, to anticipate < Latin *praevenire*, *praevent-*: *prae-*, *pre-* + *venire*, to come; see **gwa-** in App. I.] —**pre-vent'a-bil-i-ty**, *pre-vent'i-bil-i-ty* *n.* —**pre-vent'a-ble**, *pre-vent'i-ble* *adj.* —**pre-vent'er** *n.*

♦ **SYNONYMS** *prevent, preclude, avert, obviate, forestall* These verbs mean to stop or hinder something from happening, especially by advance planning or action. *Prevent* implies anticipatory counteraction: *"Some contemporaries believed that capitalism and the rise of an international economy would prevent war among 'civilized' states"* (John Howard Morrow). To *preclude* is to exclude the possibility of an event or action: *"a tranquility which . . . his wife's presence would have precluded"* (John Henry Newman). *Avert* and *obviate* imply that something, such as a difficulty or necessity, has been removed or avoided: *The pilot's quick thinking averted an accident*. The *short duration* of the journey *obviated the need for large food supplies*. *Forestall* usually suggests anticipatory measures taken to counteract, neutralize, or nullify the effects of something: *We installed an alarm system to forestall break-ins*.

pre-vent de-fense (prév'ént' dē'fēns') *n.* Football A defensive formation or strategy that employs an additional pass defender in an attempt to prevent long gains by the offense, usually near the end of the game.

pre-ven-tion (pri-vén'shən) *n.* The act of preventing something: *the prevention of illness*.

pre-ven-tive (pri-vén'tiv) also **pre-ven-ta-tive** (-tə-tiv) *adj.* **1.** Intended or used to prevent or hinder; acting as an obstacle: *preventive measures*. **2.** Carried out to deter expected aggression by hostile forces. **3.** Preventing or slowing the course of an illness or disease; prophylactic: *preventive medicine; preventive health care*. ♦ *n.* **1.** Something that prevents; an obstacle. [Middle English *prevenitive*, from *prevenire*, to prevent, to come before; see **PREVENT**.] —**pre-ven-tive-ly** *adv.* —**pre-ven-tive-ness** *n.*

preventive detention *n.* **1.** The detention in jail, prior and during criminal trial, of a defendant deemed too dangerous for release. **2.** Imprisonment without trial of a person identified by authorities as a danger to society.

pre-verb (prē'vərb') *n.* A prefix or particle preceding the root or stem of a verb, as *for-* in *forget*. —**pre-verb'** *adj.*

pre-verb-al (prē-vərb'ə-l) *adj.* **1.** Preceding the verb. **2a.** Having not yet learned to speak: *preverbal children*. **b.** Marked by the absence of spoken language: *preverbal sounds; the preverbal stage of development*.

pre-view also **pre-vue** (prē'vyoo') *n.* **1.** An advance showing, as of a movie or art exhibition, to which a selected audience is invited before public presentation begins. **2.** An advance viewing or exhibition, especially the presentation of several scenes advertising a forthcoming movie; a trailer. **3.** An introductory or preliminary message, sample, or overview; a foretaste. ♦ *tr.v.* -viewed, -view-ing, -views also -vued, -vu-ing, -vues **1.** To view or exhibit in advance. **2.** To provide a preliminary sample or overview of: *The professor previewed the course for us*.

pre-vi-ous (prē'vē-əs) *adj.* **1.** Existing or occurring before something else in time or order; prior: *children by a previous marriage*. **2. Informal** Acting, occurring, or done too soon; premature or hasty: *"I have been too previous, for which you must blame the natural impatience of a man in love"* (Georgette Heyer). [Latin *praevious*, going before: *prae-*, *pre-* + *via*, way; see **wegh-** in App. I.] —**pre-vi-ous-ly** *adv.* —**pre-vi-ous-ness** *n.*

previous question *n.* The motion in parliamentary procedure to take an immediate vote on the main question being considered or on any other questions so designated.

previous *to prep.* Prior to; before.

pre-vise (pri-viz') *tr.v.* -vised, -vis-ing, -vis-es **1.** To know in advance; foresee. **2.** To notify in advance; forewarn. [Middle English *previsen* < Latin *praevidere*, *praevis-*: *prae-*, *pre-* + *videre*, to see; see **weid-** in App. I.] —**pre-vi-sor** *n.*

pre-vi-sion (pri-vizh'ən) *n.* **1.** A knowing in advance; foresight. **2.** A prediction; a forecast. ♦ *tr.v.* -sioned, -sion-ing, -sions To foresee. —**pre-vi-sion-al**, **pre-vi-sion-ar'y** (-vizh'ə-nēr'ē) *adj.*

pre-vo-cal-ic (prē'vō-kāl'ik) *adj.* **1.** Preceding a vowel. **2.** Of or relating to a form of a linguistic element, such as a suffix, prefix, or word, that occurs only before a vowel.

pre-vo-ca-tion-al (prē'vō-kā'shə-nəl) *adj.* Of or relating to instruction given in preparation for vocational school.

pre-vue (prē'vyoo') *n.* & *v.* Variant of **preview**.

pre-war (prē'wôr') *adj.* Existing or occurring before a war.

pre-washed (prē'wôsh't, -wôsh't) *adj.* Washed by the manufacturer so as to impart a softer texture or faded appearance. Used of textiles or clothing: *prewashed denim; prewashed jeans*.

pre-writ-ing (prē'ri'ting) *n.* The creation and arrangement of ideas preliminary to writing.

prex-y (prēk'sē) *n., pl. -ies* Slang A president, especially of a college or university. [Shortening and alteration of **PRESIDENT**.]

prey (prä) *n.* **1a.** An animal hunted or caught by another for food: *The leopard carried its prey into a tree*. **b.** The collection of animals typically hunted and eaten by a predator: *the acoustic location of prey by barn owls*. **2a.** An object or victim of attack: *ships that became the prey of pirates*. **b.** One that is subjected to or afflicted with something: *was prey to depression*. **c.** One that is deceived or taken advantage of by another: *easy prey for swindlers*. **3. Archaic a.** The act or practice of preying. **b.** Plunder; booty. ♦ *intr.v.* preyed, prey-ing, preys **1.** To hunt, catch, or eat as prey: *Owls prey on mice*. **2.** To victimize or make a profit at someone else's expense: *swindlers who prey upon the weak*. **3.** To plunder or pillage: *Vikings preying on coastal settlements*. **4.** To exert a baneful or injurious effect: *Remorse preyed on his mind*. [Middle English *preye* < Old French < Latin *praeda*, booty, prey; see **ghend-** in App. I.] —**prey'er** *n.*

prez or **Prez** (prēz) *n., pl. prez-zes* or **Prez-zes** Informal President. Often used with *the*.

PRF *abbr.* pulse repetition frequency

Pri-am (pri'am) *n.* Greek Mythology The father of Paris, Hector, and Cassandra and king of Troy, who was killed when his city fell to the Greeks.

pri-a-pic (pri-ä'pik, -äp'ik) also **pri-a-pe-an** (pri-ä-pē'an) *adj.* **1.** Of, relating to, or resembling a phallus; phallic. **2.** Relating to or overly concerned with masculinity. [Latin *Priapus*.]

pri-a-pism (pri-ä-piz'm) *n.* Persistent, usually painful erection of the penis, especially as a consequence of disease and not related to sexual arousal. [French *priapisme* < Late Latin *priapismus* < Greek *priāpismos* < *priāpein*, to have an erection < *Priāpos*, Priapus.]

pri-a-pus (pri-ä'pas) *n.* **1.** Priapus Greek & Roman Mythology The god of procreation, guardian of gardens and vineyards, and personification of the erect phallus. **2.** An image of this god, often used as a scarecrow in ancient gardens. **3.** A representation of a phallus. [Latin *Priāpos* < Greek *Priāpos*.]

Prib-i-lof Islands (prib'ä-lōf') A group of islands of southwest Alaska in the Bering Sea north of the Fox Islands. They are noted as a breeding ground for seals.

price (pris) *n.* **1.** The amount of money or goods, asked for or given in exchange for something else. **2.** The cost at which something is obtained: *believes that the price of success is hard work*. **3.** The cost of bribing someone: *maintained that every person has a price*. **4.** A reward offered for the capture or killing of a person: *a felon with a price on his head*. **5. Archaic** Value or worth. ♦ *tr.v.* priced, price-ing, prices **1.** To fix or establish a price for: *shoes that are priced at sixty dollars*. **2.** To find out the price of: *he priced the land*. **3.** To set a price on: *he priced the market*. To eliminate the demand for (goods or services) by setting prices

ä	pat	oi	boy
ä	pay	ou	out
är	care	öo	took
ä	father	öör	lure
è	pet	öo	boot
è	be	ü	cut
i	pit	ür	urge
i	bite	th	thin
ir	pier	th	this
ö	pot	zh	vision
ö	toe	ä	about,
ö	paw	item	
ör	core		

Stress marks: ' (primary);
' (secondary), as in
dictionary (dik'shə-när'ē)

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impair, undermine or curtail with disastrous effect. [OE *crypel*; connected with *creep*]

■ **cripp'led** *adj.* **cripple'dom** *n.* **cripp'ler** *n.* **cripp'ling** *n* a prop set up as a support against the side of a building.

□ **cripp'leware** *n* (*comput sl*) software that has been partly disabled to provide a limited demonstration of its use.

crise /krɛz/ *n* (*pl* **crises** /krɛz/) a peak of emotional distress, an emotional crisis. [Fr]

■ **crise de conscience** /dɔ-kɔ̃sɛ̃s/ a crisis of conscience, a moral dilemma. **crise de foi** /dɔ-fwä/ an attack of doubt, distrust or disillusionment. **crise de nerfs** /dɔ-ner/ an attack of nerves, hysterics.

crisis /kri'sis/ *n* (*pl* **crises** /kri'sɛz/) a crucial or decisive moment; a turning point, eg in a disease; a time of difficulty or distress; an emergency. [Gr *krisis* a decision, judgement, from *krinein* to decide]

□ **crisis management** *n* action taken to limit damage and establish the most profitable strategy in a difficult situation.

crisp /krisp/ *adj* curling closely; so dry as to break or crumble easily, brittle; (of pastry) short; (of weather) fresh and bracing, esp when frosty; (of fabric) clean, starched; (of hair) springy; firm, the opposite of limp or flabby; (of wording) neat, terse, well-turned; (of manner) firm, decisive, authoritative. ♦ *vt* and *vi* to make or become crisp. ♦ *n* (*usu* in *pl*) a thin slice of potato fried until crisp, a potato-crisp; any piece of food fried or roasted until crisp. [OE, from L *crispus* curled, wrinkled]

■ **crisp'ate** *adj* (*bot* and *zool*) having a wavy edge. **crisp'ation** *n* the state of being curled; a ripple or slight wave, as on the surface of water; a creeping or rippling sensation caused by a slight muscle contraction. **crisp'ature** *n* a curling. **crisp'er** *n* anything that crisps; a compartment in a refrigerator in which to keep lettuce, etc fresh. **crisp'iness** *n.* **crisp'ly** *adv.* **crisp'ness** *n.* **crisp'y** *adj* (*crisp'ier*; *crisp'iest*).

□ **crisp'bread** *n* a brittle, unsweetened type of biscuit of rye or wheat, *usu* eaten as a substitute for bread.

■ **burn to a crisp** to burn until charred and brittle.

crispin /kris'pin/ *n* a poetic name for a shoemaker, from *Crispin* of Soissons, the patron saint of shoemakers, martyred 25 October 287.

criss-cross or **crisscross** /kris'kros/ *n* a network of crossing lines; the Latin cross at the beginning of the alphabet on a hornbook (see **criss-cross-row** under **Christ**); a mark formed by two lines in the form of a cross, as the signature of a person unable to write his or her name; a game of noughts and crosses (*esp N Am*). ♦ *adj* and *adv* crosswise; consisting of a network of crossed lines. ♦ *vt* and *vi* to cross repeatedly. [From *christ-cross*]

crissum /kris'am/ *n* (*pl* **criss'a**) the area surrounding a bird's cloaca, including the under-tail feathers. [L *crissare* to move the thighs sensuously]

crista /kris'tə/ *n* (*pl* **cris'tae** /-ē/) a crest; a ridge or fold resembling a crest, eg the infolding of the inner membrane of a mitochondrion (*biol*). [L]

■ **cris'tate** *adj* crested. **cris'tiform** *adj*.

crystalite /kri-stō'bā-lit/ *n* one of the principal forms of silica, produced from quartz at high temperatures, occurring in volcanic rocks, slags, etc. [Cerro San Cristóbal in Mexico, where it was discovered]

crit /krit/ (*inf*) *n* short for **criticism**.

crit. *abbrev:* critical.

criterion /kri-tē'ri-ən/ *n* (*pl* **critē'ria**) a means or standard of judging; a test; a rule, standard or canon. [Gr *kritērion*, from *kritēs* a judge]

□ **critē'riion-referenced** *adj* (of an examination or assessment) judging examinees on the basis of their demonstrated mastery of certain skills and abilities (rather than by comparison with the achievements of their peers; cf **norm-referenced**). **criterion referencing** *n*.

criterium /kri-tē'ri-əm/ *n* a cycling race consisting of a series of laps over public roads. [Fr *critérium* test, criterion; see **criterion**]

crith /kriθ/ (*phys*) *n* a unit of mass, that of 1 litre of hydrogen at standard temperature and pressure, ie 89.88mg. [Gr *krithē* barleycorn, a small weight]

crithidial /kri-thid'i-əl/ (*zool*) *adj* of, relating to or resembling the flagellate genus *Crithidia*, particularly applied to a stage in the life cycle of certain trypanosomes.

crithomancy /kriθ'ō-man-si/ *n* divination by strewing meal over sacrificial animals. [Gr *krithē* barley, and *mantēā* divination]

critic /krit'ik/ *n* someone who assesses the quality of something, a judge; a professional reviewer of literature, art, drama or music; a person skilled in textual studies and the ascertainment of the original words where readings differ; a fault-finder. [Gr *kritikos*, from *krinein* to judge]

■ **critical** *adj* at or relating to a turning point, transition or crisis; decisive, crucial; (loosely) seriously ill; relating to criticism; rigorously discriminating; finding fault of a condition in which a chain reaction

is self-sustaining (*phys*). **crit'ically** *adv.* **crit'icalness** or **crit'ical'ity** *n.* **crit'icaster** *n* a petty critic (see **-aster**). **crit'icism** *n* the art of judging, esp in literature or the fine arts; a critical judgement or observation. **crit'icizable** or **-s-** /-sɪz-/ *adj.* **crit'icize** or **-ise** *vt* to analyse and pass judgement on; to find fault with, to censure. **crit'icizer** or **-s-** *n.*

□ **critical angle** *n* the smallest possible angle of incidence at which a light ray is totally reflected. **critical apparatus** same as **apparatus criticus** (see **apparatus**). **critical coupling** *n* (*elec eng*) the coupling giving maximum energy transfer between two circuits or systems tuned to the same frequency. **critical damping** *n* (*phys*) the minimum amount of damping that results in an oscillatory electric circuit or mechanical system sufficient to prevent free oscillation. **criticality accident** *n* (*nuclear eng*) the accidental attainment of a critical mass of fissile material by eg the drying out of a solution containing uranium-235. **critical mass** *n* (*nuclear eng*) the minimum amount of fissile material needed to sustain a chain reaction. **critical path analysis** *n* the working out with the aid of a computer the sequence of operations that must be followed in order to complete a complex piece of work in the minimum time. **critical philosophy** *n* that of Kant which is based on a critical examination of the foundations of knowledge. **critical point** or **critical state** *n* the point when a substance is between its gaseous and liquid states. **critical temperature** *n* that temperature above which a gas cannot be liquefied by pressure alone.

■ **higher criticism** scholarly investigation into general questions surrounding the Bible, such as authorship and date. **lower criticism** scholarly investigation concerning specific textual passages in the Bible.

critique /kri-tēk'/ *n* (the art of) criticism; a critical estimate of a work of literature, art, etc; a critical dissertation or review. ♦ *vt* to discuss or analyse critically. [Fr, from Gr *kritikē* (*technē*) the art of criticism]

critter or **crittur** /krit'ər/ (*dialect* and *inf*; now *esp US*) *n* a creature; an animal.

crivens or **crivvens** /kriv'ənz/ (*Scot sl*) *interj* an exclamation expressing amazement or dismay. [Perh from *Christ* combined with *heavens*]

CRO *abbrev:* Criminal Records Office.

croak /krɔk/ *vi* (of eg a frog or raven) to utter a low hoarse sound; to speak similarly hoarsely; to grumble or talk dismally; to die (*sl*). ♦ *vt* to utter (words) hoarsely; to kill (*esp N Am sl*). ♦ *n* the sound or a sound similar to that made by a frog or raven. [Imit]

■ **croak'er** *n* an animal or bird that croaks; a grumbler; any of several types of tropical seafish of the Sciaenidae family that emit croaking noises. **croak'ily** *adv.* **croak'ing** *n.* **croak'y** *adj* (**croak'ier**; **croak'iest**).

Croat /krɔ'at/ *n* a native or inhabitant of Croatia, in the former Yugoslavia; the language of Croatia. ♦ *adj* of or relating to the Croats or their language. [Serbo-Croat *Hrvat*]

■ **Croatian** /-ā'shan/ *adj* belonging to Croatia or its people. ♦ *n* a Croat; the Croat language.

croc /krok/ (*inf*) *n* short for **crocodile**.

croceate, **croceous** see under **crocus**¹.

crocein /krɔ'si-in/ *n* one of a group of red and yellow artificial dyes. [L *croceus* yellow]

croche /krɔch/ *n* a knob at the top of a deer's horn. [Fr]

crochet /krɔ'shā/ *n* decorative work consisting of intertwined loops, executed in wool or thread with a small hook. ♦ *vi* and *vt* (**crocheting** /krɔ'shā-ing/; **crocheted** /krɔ'shād/) to work in crochet. [Fr *crochet*, from *croche*, *croc* a hook]

■ **cro'cheter** *n.* **cro'cheting** *n* the action of crochet. ♦ *n* crochetwork.

crocidolite /krɔ-sid'ə-lit/ *n* a fibrous mineral consisting mainly of silicate of iron and sodium, called *blue asbestos*; in S Africa also a golden alteration product or pseudomorph of this mineral, consisting largely of quartz. [From Gr *krokis*, -idos nap of cloth, and *lithos* stone]

crock¹ /krok/ *n* a pot or jar; a potsherd; short form of **crock of shit** (see below). [OE *croc*; Ger *Krug*; perh of Celtic origin, as in Welsh *crochan* a pot, Gaelic *crogan* a pitcher]

■ **crocked** *adj* (*N Am sl*) drunk. **crock'ery** *n* all types of domestic pottery.

■ **crock of shit** (*vulgar sl*; chiefly *N Am*) something considered worthless or nonsense.

crock² /krok/ (*inf*) *n* a broken down or decrepit person or thing. ♦ *vi* to break down (often with *up*). ♦ *vt* to disable. [Cf Norw and Swed *krake* a poor beast]

crock³ /krok/ (*dialect*) *n* dirt, smut. ♦ *vt* to fill or cover with dirt or smut. [Origin doubtful]

crockery see under **crock**¹

crocket /krok'it/ (*arc*) pediment, pinnacle, **croquet**

crocodile /krok'ə-dil/ *Crocodylus* (order *Ci*) thick skin covered with Loricata including all a double file of schœ *krokodilos* a lizard]

■ **crocodilian** /-dil/

□ **crocodile bird** *n* a the crocodile's teeth clip for making el interlock. **crocodile** that crocodiles (whic the hard necessity of

crocoite see under **c**

crocosmia /kra-kɔz *Crocossia*, includin flowers in late summ

crocus¹ /krɔ'kas/ *n* brilliant yellow, pur prob of Eastern orig

■ **croceate** /krɔ'si- coloured. **crocoite** bright-red mineral, l

crocus² /krɔ'kas/ (*si*)

Croesus /kre'səs/ *r* fabulous wealth]

croft /kroft/ *n* a small dwelling; a small f. course of bleaching ■ **croft'er** *n* someo

Crohn's disease involving severe inf the ileum, and cau [B *Crohn* (1884-19

croissant /krwā'sā/ quantity of butter a

croix de guerre /kri in action.

cromack same as **c**

Cro-Magnon /krɔ. type of *Homo* Palaeolithic times. skulls of this type

crombec /krom'be having a very shor and *bek* beak]

Crombie[®] /krom'b used for overcoats

crome or **cromb** /i draw with a crom

cromlech /krom'le applied to a dolm and *llech* a stone]

cromorna or **cror** krumhorn stop.

Cromwellian /kro. Puritan and Lord supporter of Crom chair of plain des popularized by th

crone /krɔn/ *n* an c carrion, hag, dire

cronet /krɔ'net/ (*o* [coronet]

cronk /kronk/ (*A* *crank*¹)

crony /krɔ'ni/ *n* a slang, from Gr *cl* ■ **crō'nyism** *n* influential posts r

croodle¹ /kroo'd unknown]

croodle² /kroo'dl

fāte; fār; r.

pretzel /pret'səl/ *n* a glazed salted biscuit made in rope shape and twisted into a kind of loose knot. [Ger *Brezel*]

preux chevalier /pro sha-va-lyā/ (Fr) *n* a valiant knight.

prevail /pri-vāl/ *vi* to be victorious *(with over, against)*; to win through; to have the upper hand, have the edge; to urge successfully, to persuade (with *on, upon*); to be usual or most usual; to predominate; to hold good, be in use, be customary; to gain strength (obs). ♦ *vt* (obs) to avail; to persuade. [L *praevalēre* to be superior or stronger, from *prae* above, beyond, and *valēre* to be strong]

■ **prevail'ing** *adj* very general or common; most common or frequent; predominant; currently popular; powerful, effective; controlling. **prevail'ingly** *adv*. **prevail'ment** *n* (Shakesp) the power of overcoming.

□ **prevailing wind** *n* the wind that blows most frequently in any particular region.

prevalent /prev'ə-lant/ *adj* prevailing; widespread; common, frequent; widely practised or accepted; powerful; victorious (obs). [L *praevalēns, -ēntis*, *prp* of *praevalēre*; see **prevail**]

■ **prev'alence** or **prev'alency** *n*. **prev'alently** *adv*.

prevaricate /pri-var'i-kāt/ *vi* to avoid stating the truth or coming directly to the point; to quibble; to deviate (obs); to shift about from side to side (obs); to undertake an enterprise with the object of wrecking it (obs); to betray a client by collusion with his or her opponent (law). ♦ *vt* (obs) to pervert, transgress. [L *praevaricārī, -ātus* to walk straddling or crookedly, to act collusively, from *prae* above, beyond, and *varīcus* straddling, from *vārus* bent]

■ **prevaricā'tion** *n*. **prevaricā'tor** *n* someone who prevaricates; formerly in Cambridge University, a satirical orator at the ceremony of Commencement.

prevé see **prove**.

prevēne /pri-vēn/ *vt* to precede (rare); to anticipate (obs). [L *praevenīre* to precede; see **prevent**]

■ **prevēnancy** /prev'an-an-si/ *n* (rare) courteous anticipation of others' wishes. **prevē'nience** *n*. **prevē'nient** *adj* antecedent, preceding, anticipatory; predisposing; preventive (obs).

prevent /pri-vent/ *vt* to stop (someone from doing something, or something from happening), to hinder; to stop the occurrence of, to make impossible, to avert; to thwart; to anticipate, forestall (obs); to balk (someone of his or her purpose), to debar or preclude (obs); to precede (obs); to be, go, or act earlier than (obs); to go faster than (obs); to satisfy in advance (obs); to meet or provide for in advance (obs). [L *praevenīre, -ventum* to come before, to anticipate, from *prae* before, and *venīre* to come]

■ **preventabil'ity** *n*. **preven'table** or **preven'tible** *adj*. **preven'ter** *n* someone or something that prevents or hinders; a supplementary rope or part (naut). **preven'tion** *n* the action of preventing; avoidance or preclusion of something by care and forethought; an anticipation or premonition (obs); an obstruction (obs). **preven'tive** or (by irregular formation) **preven'tative** *adj* tending to prevent or hinder; prophylactic; concerned with the prevention of smuggling (hist). ♦ *n* that which prevents; a prophylactic. **preven'tively** *adv*. **preven'tiveness** *n*.

□ **preventive detention** *n* prolonged imprisonment, with corrective training, for persistent or dangerous offenders of 30 or over for periods of from 5 to 14 years.

preverb /prē'vərb/ (linguistics) *n* a particle or prefix which precedes a verb or verb-root. [pre- (1)]

■ **prever'bal** *adj* occurring or standing before a verb; relating to the period of babyhood before the development of speech.

pre-vernal /prē-vūr-nl/ (bot) *adj* flowering before spring; coming early into flower or leaf. [pre- (1)]

preview or (US) **prevue** /prē-vi-vi/ *n* a showing or viewing of a film, exhibition, etc, before it is open to the public; a public performance of a play before it officially opens; an advance showing to the public of excerpts from a film, a trailer (N Am); a hint or foretaste. ♦ *vt* /prē-vi-vi/ to give or attend a preview of (an exhibition, play, etc); /prē-vi-vi/ to look at beforehand (rare); to foresee. ♦ *vi* (of an exhibition, play, etc) to be previewed. [pre- (1)]

previous /prē-vi-as/ *adj* occurring before, earlier; already arranged, prior; former; premature, over-hasty (facetious). ♦ *n* (police inf) previous convictions. ♦ *adv* (with *to*) prior to, before. [L *praevious* leading the way, from *prae* before, and *via* a way]

■ **prē'viously** *adv*. **prē'viousness** *n*.

□ **previous examination** *n* the little go (qv) at Cambridge University.

previous question *n* (in the House of Commons) a motion to end the present debate before a vote is taken; (in the House of Lords and US assemblies) a motion to vote without delay on the matter being debated; (in public meetings) a motion to pass on to the next business.

previse /pri- or prē-vi-z/ *vt* (rare, literary) to foresee; to forewarn. [L *praevidēre, -vīsum*, from *prae* before, and *vidēre* to see]

■ **prevision** /-vīzh'ən/ *n* foresight; foreknowledge. ♦ *vt* to endow with prevision. **previsional** /-vīzh'ə-nəl/ *adj*.

prevocalic /prē-vō-kal'ik/ *adj* occurring or standing before a vowel. [pre- (1)]

pre-wash /prē'wosh/ *n* a preliminary wash before the main wash, esp in a washing machine; a setting for this on an automatic washing machine. ♦ *vt* to give a preliminary wash to (a garment). [pre- (1)]

prewyn a Shakespearean form of **prune**³.

prex /preks/ (US university sl) *n* the president of a college (also **prex'y**).

prey /prā/ *n* the creature or creatures that a predatory beast hunts and kills as food; a victim or victims; a sufferer from (depression, fears, etc) (with *to*); booty, plunder (archaic, rare); that which is preserved from loss in battle, eg one's own life (Bible); depredation (rare); the act of seizing (Spenser, Shakesp). ♦ *vi* (with *on* or *upon*) to hunt and kill (another creature) as food, to attack as prey; to bully, exploit or terrorize as victims; to distress or afflict; to make depredations on; to take plunder from. ♦ *vt* (Spenser) to plunder. [Ofr *preie* (Fr *proie*), from L *praeda* booty]

■ **prey'ful** *adj* (Shakesp) bent upon prey.

■ **beast of prey** and **bird of prey** see under **beast** and **bird** respectively.

prez /prez/ *n* an informal shortening of **president**.

prezzie or **pressie** /prez'i/ (inf) *n* a present or gift.

prial /pri'al/ same as **pair-royal** (see under **pair**¹).

Priapus /pri-ā-pas/ *n* an ancient deity personifying male generative power, guardian of gardens, later regarded as the chief god of lasciviousness and sensuality. [Latinized from Gr *Prīāpos*]

■ **Priapean** /pri-ā-pē-an/ *adj*. **Priapic** /-ap'ik/ *adj* of or relating to Priapus; (without *cap*) of, relating to, exhibiting, etc a phallus; (without *cap*) excessively concerned or preoccupied with virility and male sexuality. **pri'apism** *n* persistent erection of the penis (pathol); licentiousness, lewdness.

pribble /prīb'l/ *n* a modification of **prabble**, *usu* found with it in *pribble and prabble* (also **pribb'le-prabb'le**).

price /prīs/ (also *Spenser* **prise** /prīs or prīz/) *n* the amount, *usu* in money, for which a thing is sold or offered; that which one forgoes or suffers for the sake of or in gaining something; money offered for the capture or killing of anybody; (the size of) the sum, etc, by which one can be bribed; betting odds; preciousness, worth, value (archaic); (also **prize**) valuation (Spenser, Shakesp). ♦ *vt* to fix, state, or mark the price of; to ascertain the price of (inf); to pay the price of (Spenser); to prize, value (Shakesp). [Ofr *pris* (Fr *prix*), from L *pretium* price; cf **praise, prize**¹]

■ **priced** *adj* having a price assigned; valued at such-and-such a price. **price'less** *adj* beyond price; invaluable; supremely and delectably absurd. **price'lessly** *adv*. **price'lessness** *n*. **pricer** *n*. **pric'ey** or **pric'y** *adj* (pric'ier; pric'iest) (inf) expensive. **pric'iness** *n*. □ **Price Code** *n* a set of regulations used by the British government between 1973 and 1979 to control prices, as a measure against inflation. **Price Commission** *n* a body set up by the British government in 1973 (abolished in 1979) to control prices, as a measure against inflation. **price control** *n* the fixing by a government of maximum, or sometimes minimum, prices chargeable for goods or services. **price current** *n* (often in *pl*, **prices current**) a list of prevailing prices at any time; a list of prices paid for any class of goods, etc. **price-cutting** *n* lowering of prices to secure custom.

price discrimination *n* the practice of selling the same product at different prices in different markets. **price-earnings ratio** *n* the ratio of the market price of a common stock share to its earnings. **price-fixing** *n* the establishing of the price of a commodity, etc by agreement between suppliers or by government price control, rather than by the operation of a free market. **price index** *n* an index number which relates current prices to those of a base period or base date, the latter *usu* being assigned the value of 100. **price leadership** *n* the establishment of the price of a commodity by the market leader. **price level** *n* the average of many prices of commodities. **price list** *n* a list of prices of goods offered for sale. **price ring** *n* a group of manufacturers who co-operate for the purpose of raising or maintaining the price of a commodity above the level that would be established by a free market, a cartel. **price support** *n* the maintenance by a government of price levels through subsidy, etc. **price tag** *n* a tag or label showing price; the cost of something, typically a project or undertaking. **price war** *n* a form of commercial competition in which firms competing in the same market successively lower their prices in order to secure a larger share of that market.

■ **above or beyond price** so valuable that no price can or would be enough. **at any price** no matter what the cost may be. **at a price** at a somewhat high price. **in great price** (archaic) in high estimation. **of price** (archaic) of great value. **price of money** the rate of discount in lending or borrowing capital. **price oneself out of the market** to

charge more than cust
someone's head a rew
price...? what about (th
(or that) happening now?
o? **without price** beyon

prick /prɪk/ *vt* to pierce :
by doing this; (of eg the
hole); to urge with, or a
up; of an animal) to i
seedlings) in small hole
prick or dot, to tick off
pricks; to write out in r
(obs); to pick, poke or f
stud (with something); o
find insensitive spots (h
sensation of pricking,
pangs; (of wine) to begi
stand erect; to ride with
by the pricking methc
piercing or puncturing
puncturing; the penis
dislikes or thinks a foo
and piercing, such as
in written music (obs);
point of space or tim
a point, peak, acme (S;
mark or target (obs). [C
■ **prick'er** *n* a piercing
priming wire. **prick'in**
□ **prick'-eared** *adj* ha
prick-the-louse *n* (S
affected person. ♦ *adj*
music; descendant. **prick**
same as **cockteaser** (;
loose. **prick'wood** *n* t
■ **kick against the**
authority, to the exten
one's ears to begin to

pricket /prɪk'ɪt/ *n* a fal
unbranched antlers; a
with such a spike. [pi

prickle /prɪk'l/ *n* a sha
or from the skin of an
and *vi* to prick slightl
■ **prick'liness** *n*. **pric**
with prickles; tingling
skinned; potentially c
□ **prick'leback** *n* the
(genus *Xanthoxylum*)
the sweat glands with
genus (*Opuntia*) with
poppy *n* a flowering
(genus *Argemone*).

pride /prɪd/ *n* the state
haughtiness; a proper
of what is unworth
pleasure or satisfacti
oneself or someone
etc; something of v
beauty displayed; osi
mettle; a peacock's
animal (Shakesp); a
of India, London pri
on); to make proud
■ **pride'ful** *adj*. **prid**
■ **pride of place** the
chief importance; th
place). **take (a) pric**
maintaining high sta

pridian /prɪd'i-ən/ *ac*
prid'ie the previous
pried see **pry**¹.

prie-dieu /prē-dyo' /
God]

prief or **priefe** /prēj
prove)
■ **prieve** *vt* to provi

prier see under **pry**¹.

priest /prɛst/ *n* (in t
ordained minister;
between a deacon

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e noun).
e neck or back.
ck), causing painful

d on a large grass
ns of eleven players,
ns by hitting the ball

trary to traditional

g adj.

grasshoppers
male produces a
id. [Family Gryllidae:
milar insects of

criquer 'to crackle',

artilage) Anatomy the

'ring-shaped'.

s de cœur pronunc.
aint.

c announcements in

ion of surprise.

hort for CRIMINAL.

180.

ites a serious
state and is
llectively: the
plorable action or

Fr. from L. *crimen*
re 'to judge'.

to the Crimea, a
ea of Azov and the

/ ► n. (pl. **crimes**
committed in a fit

nitted a crime.
crime. 2 informal

criminally adv.
from L. *crimen*,

historical adultery.
] another term for

ə)lɪz/ ► v. make
) into a criminal by

(ə)n/n.
ncerned with the

f making a
t permanent form.
on's previous
eing convicted for

j. causing or likely

scientific study of

crinologist n.
s or ridges.
ften as adj.
a hot iron. 2 (also
limiting or adverse
d or compressed
crimping wires or

- DERIVATIVES **crimpy** adj.
- ORIGIN OE *gecrympan*, of Gmc origin.
- crimper** ► n. 1 a person or thing that crimps. 2 informal a hairdresser.
- Crimplene** /'krɪmpli:n/ ► n. trademark a synthetic crease-resistant fibre and fabric.
- ORIGIN 1950s: perh. from the name of *Crimple Valley* in Yorkshire, site of the laboratory where the fabric was developed, + a shortened form of **TERYLENE**.
- crimson** /'krɪmz(ə)n/ ► n. a rich deep red colour.
► v. become flushed, especially through embarrassment.
- ORIGIN ME: from obs. Fr. *cramoisin* or Old Sp. *cremesin*, based on Arab. *kirmizī*, from *kirmiz* (see **KERMES**).
- cringe** /krɪn(d)ʒ/ ► v. (**cringes**, **cringing**, **cringed**)
1 bend one's head and body in fear or apprehension or in a servile manner. 2 experience an inward shiver of embarrassment or disgust. ► n. an act of cringing.
- DERIVATIVES **cringer** n.
- ORIGIN ME *crenge*, *crenche*, rel. to OE *cringan*, *crincan* 'bend, yield, fall in battle', of Gmc origin and rel. to **CRANK**¹.
- cringeworthy** (also **cringe-making**) ► adj. informal causing embarrassment.
- cringle** ► n. Sailing a ring of rope containing a thimble, for another rope to pass through.
- ORIGIN C17: from Low Ger. *kringel*, dimin. of *kring* 'ring'.
- crinkle** ► v. form or cause to form small creases or wrinkles. ► n. a small crease or wrinkle.
- DERIVATIVES **crinkly** adj. (**crinklier**, **crinkliest**).
- ORIGIN ME: rel. to OE *crincan* (see **CRINGE**).
- crinkum-crankum** /krɪŋkəm'kraŋkəm/ ► n. archaic elaborate decoration or detail.
- ORIGIN C17: fanciful reduplication of **CRANK**¹ or **CRANK**².
- crinoid** /'krɪnɔɪd, 'kraɪnɔɪd/ ► n. Zoology an echinoderm of a class (Crinoidea) that comprises the sea lilies and feather stars.
- DERIVATIVES **crinoidal** /-'nɔɪd(ə)l/ adj.
- ORIGIN mod. L. *Crinoidea*, from Gk *krinoeidēs* 'lily-like', from *krinon* 'lily'.
- crinoline** /'krɪn(ə)lɪn/ ► n. 1 historical a stiffened or hooped petticoat worn to make a long skirt stand out. 2 a stiff fabric made of horsehair and cotton or linen thread, used for stiffening petticoats or as a lining.
- ORIGIN C19: from Fr., formed irregularly from L. *crinis* 'hair' + *linum* 'thread'.
- criollo** /krɪ'bləʊ, -dljəʊ/ ► n. (pl. **criollos**) 1 a person from Spanish South or Central America, especially one of pure Spanish descent. 2 (also **criollo tree**) a cacao tree of a variety producing high-quality beans.
- ORIGIN C19: Sp., lit. 'native to the locality' (see **CREOLE**).
- cripes** /krɪlɪps/ ► exclam. informal an expression of surprise.
- ORIGIN early 20th cent.: euphemism for **CHRIST**.
- cripple** ► n. archaic or offensive a person who is unable to walk or move properly through disability or injury.
► v. (Often as adj. **crippling** or **crippled**) make unable to move or walk properly. ► cause severe and disabling damage to.
- DERIVATIVES **crippler** n. **cripplingly** adv.
- ORIGIN OE: from two words, *crypel* and *crēopel*, both of Gmc origin and rel. to **CREEP**.

USAGE The word **cripple** in the sense 'a person unable to walk through disability or injury' has acquired offensive connotations and has now largely been replaced by broader terms such as **disabled person**.

- crisis** ► n. (pl. **crises**) 1 a time of intense difficulty or danger. 2 the turning point of a disease when an important change takes place, indicating either recovery or death.
- ORIGIN ME: medical L., from Gk *krisis* 'decision', from *krinein* 'decide'.
- crisp** ► adj. 1 firm, dry, and brittle, especially in a way considered pleasing. ► (of hair) having tight curls. 2 (of the weather) cool, fresh, and invigorating. 3 (of a way of speaking) briskly decisive and matter-of-fact. ► n. (also **potato crisp**) Brit. a wafer-thin slice of potato fried until crisp and eaten as a snack. ► v. 1 give (food) a crisp

surface by placing it in an oven or grill. 2 archaic curl into short, stiff, wavy folds or crinkles.

- PHRASES **burn to a crisp** burn so as to leave only a charred remnant.
 - DERIVATIVES **crispiness** n. **crisply** adv. **crispness** n. **crispy** adj. (**crispier**, **crispiest**).
 - ORIGIN OE: from L. *crispus* 'curled'.
 - crispate** ► adj. Botany having a wavy or curly edge.
 - ORIGIN C19: from L. *crispatus*, past part. of *crispare* 'to curl'.
 - crispbread** ► n. a thin crisp biscuit made from crushed rye or wheat.
 - crisper** ► n. a compartment at the bottom of a refrigerator for storing fruit and vegetables.
 - criss-cross** ► n. a pattern of intersecting straight lines or paths. ► adj. (of a pattern) containing a number of intersecting straight lines or paths. ► v. 1 form a criss-cross pattern on (a place). 2 move or travel around (a place) by going back and forth repeatedly.
 - ORIGIN C17 (denoting a figure of a cross preceding the alphabet in a hornbook): from *Christ-cross*, later treated as a reduplication of **CROSS**.
 - crista** /'krɪstə/ ► n. (pl. **cristae** /-ti:/) 1 Anatomy & Zoology a ridge or crest. 2 Biology each of the partitions in a mitochondrion formed by folding of the inner membrane.
 - DERIVATIVES **cristate** adj.
 - ORIGIN C19: from L., 'tuft, plume, crest'.
 - cristobalite** /krɪ'stəʊbəlɪt/ ► n. a form of silica which is the main component of opal.
 - ORIGIN C19: named after *Cerro San Cristóbal* in Mexico, where it was discovered.
 - criterion** /krɪ'tɪərɪən/ ► n. (pl. **criteria** /-rɪə/) a principle or standard by which something may be judged or decided.
 - DERIVATIVES **critical** adj.
 - ORIGIN C17: from Gk *kritērion* 'means of judging', from *kritēs* (see **CRITIC**).
- USAGE** The singular form is **criterion** and the plural form is **criteria**. It is a common mistake to use **criteria** as if it were a singular, as in *a further criteria needs to be considered*.
- critic** ► n. 1 a person who expresses an unfavourable opinion of something. 2 a person who judges the merits of literary or artistic works, especially one who does so professionally.
 - ORIGIN C16: from L. *criticus*, from Gk *kritikos*, from *kritēs* 'a judge'.
 - critical** ► adj. 1 expressing adverse or disapproving comments or judgements. 2 expressing or involving an analysis of the merits and faults of a work of literature or art. 3 (of a situation or problem) at a point of crisis.
► extremely ill and at risk of death. ► having a decisive importance in the success or failure of something.
 - 4 Mathematics & Physics relating to or denoting a point of transition from one state to another. 5 (of a nuclear reactor or fuel) maintaining a self-sustaining chain reaction.
 - DERIVATIVES **criticality** n. **critically** adv. **criticalness** n.
 - critical angle** ► n. Optics the angle of incidence beyond which rays of light passing through a denser medium to the surface of a less dense medium are no longer refracted but totally reflected.
 - critical apparatus** ► n. see **APPARATUS** (sense 3).
 - critical damping** ► n. Physics damping just sufficient to prevent oscillations.
 - critical mass** ► n. 1 Physics the minimum amount of fissile material needed to maintain a nuclear chain reaction. 2 the minimum size or amount of resources required to start or maintain a venture.
 - critical path** ► n. the sequence of stages determining the minimum time needed for a complex operation.
 - critical point** ► n. 1 Chemistry a set of conditions at which both the liquid and gas phases of a substance have the same density, and are therefore indistinguishable. 2 US term for **STATIONARY POINT**.
 - critical pressure** ► n. Chemistry the pressure of a gas or vapour in its critical state.

presuppose ► v. require as a precondition of possibility or coherence. ► tacitly assume to be the case.

- DERIVATIVES **presupposition** n.
- ORIGIN ME: from OFr. *presupposer*, suggested by med. L. *praesupponere*, from *prae* 'before' + *supponere* (see **SUPPOSE**).

presynaptic /ˌpriːsɪˈnaptɪk/ ► adj. Physiology denoting a nerve cell that releases a transmitter substance into a synapse during transmission of an impulse.

- DERIVATIVES **presynaptically** adv.

prêt-à-porter /ˌprɛtəˈpɔːtɛr/ ► n. designer clothing sold ready-to-wear.

- ORIGIN Fr., lit. 'ready to wear'.

pretence (US **pretense**) ► n. 1 an act of pretending.

- 2 pretentious behaviour. 3 (**pretence to**) a claim to (something), especially a false or ambitious one.

pretend ► v. 1 act so as to make it appear that something is the case when in fact it is not. ► engage in an imaginative game or fantasy. ► simulate (an emotion or quality). 2 (**pretend to**) lay claim to (a quality or title). ► adj. informal imaginary; make-believe.

- ORIGIN ME: from L. *praetendere* 'stretch forth, claim', from *prae* 'before' + *tendere* 'stretch'.

pretender ► n. a person who claims or aspires to a title or position.

pretense ► n. US spelling of **PRETENCE**.

pretension ► n. 1 (**pretension to**) a claim or aspiration to something. 2 pretentiousness.

- ORIGIN ME: from med. L. *praetensio(n-)*, from *praetens* 'alleged', from *praetendere* (see **PRETEND**).

pre-tension ► v. apply tension to before manufacture or use.

- DERIVATIVES **pre-tensioner** n.

pretentious ► adj. attempting to impress by affecting greater importance or merit than is actually possessed.

- DERIVATIVES **pretentiously** adv. **pretentiousness** n.
- ORIGIN C19: from Fr. *prétentieux*, from *prétention* (see **PRETENSION**).

preter- /ˌpriːtə/ ► comb. form more than: *preternatural*.

- ORIGIN from L. *praeter* 'past, beyond'.

preterite /ˌprɛt(ə)ɪt/ (US also **preterit**) Grammar ► adj. expressing a past action or state. ► n. a simple past tense or form.

- ORIGIN ME (in the sense 'bygone, former'): from L. *praeteritus*, past part. of *praeterire* 'pass, go by', from *praeter* 'past, beyond' + *ire* 'go'.

preterition /ˌpriːtəɪʃ(ə)n/ ► n. the rhetorical technique of referring to something by professing to omit it.

- ORIGIN C16: from late L. *praeteritio(n-)*, from *praeterire* (see **PRETERITE**).

preterm ► adj. & adv. Medicine born or occurring after a pregnancy significantly shorter than normal.

pretermitt /ˌpriːtəˈmɪt/ ► v. (**pretermits**, **pretermitt**, **pretermitted**) archaic 1 omit to do or mention. 2 abandon for a time.

- DERIVATIVES **pretermis** n.
- ORIGIN C15: from L. *praeternittere*, from *praeter* 'past, beyond' + *mittere* 'let go'.

preternatural /ˌpriːtəˈnatʃ(ə)r(ə)l/ (also **praeternatural**) ► adj. beyond what is normal or natural: *preternatural speed*.

- DERIVATIVES **preternaturally** adv.

pretest ► n. a preliminary test or trial. ► v. carry out a pretest of.

pretext ► n. an ostensible or false reason used to justify an action.

- ORIGIN C16: from L. *praetextus* 'outward display', from *praetextere* 'to disguise', from *prae* 'before' + *texere* 'weave'.

pretor ► n. US spelling of **PRATOR**.

pretreat ► v. treat with a chemical before use.

- DERIVATIVES **pretreatment** n.

pretrial ► adj. in or relating to the period before a judicial trial.

prettify ► v. (**prettifies**, **prettifying**, **prettified**) make superficially pretty.

- DERIVATIVES **prettification** n. **prettifier** n.

pretty ► adj. (**prettier**, **prettiest**) 1 attractive in a delicate way without being truly beautiful. 2 informal

used ironically to express displeasure: *he led me a pretty dance*. ► adv. informal to a moderately high degree; fairly.

- n. (pl. **pretties**) informal a pretty thing; a trinket. ► (used condescendingly) an attractive person. ► v. (**pretties**, **prettifying**, **prettied**) make pretty or attractive.

– PHRASES **pretty much** (or **nearly** or **well**) informal very nearly. **a pretty penny** informal a large sum of money. **be sitting pretty** informal be in an advantageous position or situation.

- DERIVATIVES **prettily** adv. **prettiness** n. **prettyish** adj.

– ORIGIN OE *prættig* (in sense 'cunning, crafty', later 'clever, skilful'), from a W. Gmc base meaning 'trick'.

pretty boy ► n. informal, often derogatory a foppish or effeminate man.

pretzel /ˌprɛts(ə)l/ ► n. a crisp biscuit baked as a knot or stick and flavoured with salt. ► v. (**pretzels**, **pretzeling**, **pretzeled**) N. Amer. twist, bend, or contort.

- ORIGIN C19: from Ger. *Pretzel*.

prevail ► v. 1 prove more powerful or superior. ► be widespread or current. 2 (**prevail on/upon**) persuade to do something.

- DERIVATIVES **prevailing** adj. **prevailingly** adv.

– ORIGIN ME: from L. *praevalere*, from *prae* 'before' + *valere* 'have power'.

prevailing wind ► n. a wind from the predominant or most usual direction.

prevalent /ˌprɛv(ə)l(ə)nt/ ► adj. widespread in a particular area at a particular time. ► archaic predominant; powerful.

- DERIVATIVES **prevalence** n. **prevalently** adv.

– ORIGIN C16: from L. *praevalent-*, from *praevalere* (see **PREVAIL**).

prevaricate /ˌprɪˈvɑːkət/ ► v. speak or act evasively.

- DERIVATIVES **prevarication** n. **prevaricator** n.

– ORIGIN C16 (earlier (ME) as *prevarication* and *prevaricator*), in the sense 'go astray, transgress': from L. *praevaricat-*, *praevaricari* 'walk crookedly, deviate'.

prevenient /ˌprɪˈviːniənt/ ► adj. formal preceding; antecedent.

- ORIGIN C17: from L. *praevenient-*, *praevenire* 'come before', from *prae* 'before' + *venire* 'come'.

prevent ► v. 1 keep from happening or arising. ► make unable to do something. 2 archaic (of God) go before (someone) with spiritual guidance and help.

- DERIVATIVES **preventability** n. **preventable** (also **preventible**) adj. **prevention** n.

– ORIGIN ME: from L. *praevenit-*, *praevenire* 'precede, hinder', from *prae* 'before' + *venire* 'come'.

preventative ► adj. & n. another term for **PREVENTIVE**.

- DERIVATIVES **preventatively** adv.

preventer ► n. 1 a person or thing that prevents something. 2 Sailing an extra line rigged to support a piece of rigging or to prevent the boom from gybing.

preventive ► adj. designed to prevent something from occurring. ► n. a preventive medicine or other treatment.

- DERIVATIVES **preventively** adv.

preverbal ► adj. 1 preceding the development of speech. 2 Grammar occurring before a verb.

preview ► n. a viewing or display of something before it is acquired, becomes generally available, or is produced in its final form. ► a publicity article, review, or trailer of a forthcoming film, book, etc. ► v. provide or have a preview of (a product, film, etc.).

- DERIVATIVES **previewer** n.

previous ► adj. 1 existing or occurring before in time or order. 2 informal overhasty.

- PHRASES **previous to** before.

- DERIVATIVES **previously** adv.

– ORIGIN C17: from L. *praevisus* 'going before' (from *prae* 'before' + *via* 'way') + *-ous*.

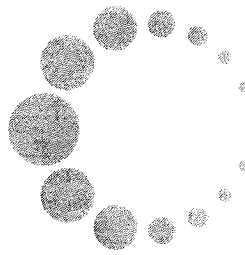
previse /ˌprɪˈvɪz/ ► v. literary foresee; predict.

- DERIVATIVES **prevision** n. **previsional** adj.

– ORIGIN C16: from L. *praevis-*, *praevidere*, from *prae* 'before' + *videre* 'to see'.

prevocalic /ˌprɪːvəˈkəlɪk/ ► adj. immediately before a vowel.

pre-war ► adj. occurring or existing before a war.



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vb criminalizes, criminalizing, criminalized or
criminalises, criminalising, criminalised (tr) 1 to make
(an action or activity) criminal 2 to treat (a person) as a
criminal > *criminalization* or *criminalisation* *n*

criminal law *n* the body of law dealing with offences
and offenders

Criminal Records Bureau *n* (in England and Wales) a
service offering employers and voluntary organizations
access to police, health, and education records

criminology (ˌkrɪmɪˈnɒlədʒi) *n* the scientific study of
crime [c19 from L *crimin-* CRIME, + -LOGY] > **criminological**
(ˌkrɪmɪnəˈlɒdʒɪkəl) or **criminologic** *adj*
> **criminologically** *adv* > **crimi'nologist** *n*

crimp (krɪmp) *vb* (tr) 1 to fold or press into ridges 2 to
fold and pinch together (something, such as two pieces
of metal) 3 to curl or wave (the hair) tightly, esp with
curling tongs 4 *inf*, chiefly US to hinder > *n* 5 the act or
result of folding or pressing together or into ridges 6 a
tight wave or curl in the hair [OE *crimpan*; rel. to *crump*
bent; see CRAMP] > **crimper** *n* > **crimpy** *adj*

Crimplene (ˈkrɪmplɪn) *n* trademark a synthetic material
similar to Terylene, characterized by its
crease-resistance

crimson (ˈkrɪmzən) *n* 1a a deep or vivid red colour 1b (as
adj): a crimson rose > *vb* 2 to make or become crimson
3 (intr) to blush [c14 from OSP. *cremesin*, from Ar. *qirmizi*
red of the kermes, from *qirmiz* KERMES] > **crimsonness** *n*

cringe (krɪndʒ) *vb* cringes, cringing, cringed (intr) 1 to
shrink or flinch, esp in fear or servility 2 to behave in a
servile or timid way 3 *inf* to experience a sudden feeling
of embarrassment or distaste > *n* 4 the act of cringing
5 the cultural cringe Austral subservience to overseas
cultural standards [OE *cringan* to yield in battle]
> **cringer** *n*

cringle (ˈkrɪŋɡl) *n* an eyelet at the edge of a sail [c17
from Low G *Kringel* small ring]

crinkle (ˈkrɪŋkəl) *vb* crinkles, crinkling, crinkled 1 to
form or cause to form wrinkles, twists, or folds 2 to
make or cause to make a rustling noise > *n* 3 a wrinkle,
twist, or fold 4 a rustling noise [OE *crincan* to bend, give
way]

crinkly (ˈkrɪŋkli) *adj* 1 wrinkled; crinkled > *n*, *pl* crinklies
2 sl an old person

crinoid (ˈkraɪnɔɪd, ˈkrɪn-) *n* 1 a primitive echinoderm
having delicate feathery arms radiating from a central
disc > *adj* 2 of, relating to, or belonging to the *Crinoidea*
3 shaped like a lily [c19 from Gk *krinoeidēs* lily-like]
> **cri'noidal** *adj*

crinoline (ˈkrɪnəlɪn) *n* 1 a stiff fabric, originally of
horsehair and linen used in lining garments 2 a
petticoat stiffened with this, worn to distend skirts, esp
in the mid-19th century 3 a framework of steel hoops
worn for the same purpose [c19 from F, from It. *crinolino*,
from *crino* horsehair, from L *crinis* hair + *lino* flax, from L
linum]

Crippen (ˈkrɪpən) *n* Hawley Harvey, known as *Doctor*
Crippen. 1862–1910, US doctor living in England: executed
for poisoning his wife; the first criminal to be
apprehended by the use of radiotelegraphy

cripple (ˈkrɪpəl) *n* 1 *offens* a person who is lame 2 *offens* a
person who is or seems disabled or deficient in some
way: a mental cripple > *vb* cripples, crippling, crippled 3 (tr)
to make a cripple of; disable [OE *crypep*; rel. to *creopan* to
creep] > **crippler** *n*

Cripple Creek *n* a village in central Colorado:
gold-mining centre since 1891, once the richest in the
world

Cripps (krɪps) *n* Sir (Richard) Stafford 1889–1952, British
Labour statesman; Chancellor of the Exchequer
(1947–50)

Criseyde (krɪˈseɪdə) *n* a variant of *Cressida*

crisis (ˈkraɪsɪs) *n*, *pl* crises (-sɪːz) 1 a crucial stage or
turning point, esp in a sequence of events or a disease

2 an unstable period, esp one of extreme trouble or
danger 3 *pathol* a sudden change in the course of a
disease [c15 from L: decision, from Gk *krisis*, from *krinein*
to decide]

crisp (krɪsp) *adj* 1 dry and brittle 2 fresh and firm
3 invigorating or bracing: a crisp breeze 4 clear; sharp:
crisp reasoning 5 lively or stimulating 6 clean and orderly
7 concise and pithy 8 wrinkled or curly: *crisp hair* > *vb*
9 to make or become crisp > *n* 10 Brit a very thin slice of
potato fried and eaten cold as a snack 11 something
that is crisp [OE, from L *crispus* curled, uneven, wrinkled]
> **crisply** *adv* > **crispness** *n*

crispbread (ˈkrɪsp,bred) *n* a thin dry biscuit made of
wheat or rye

crisper (ˈkrɪspə) *n* a compartment in a refrigerator for
storing salads, vegetables, etc, in order to keep them
fresh

Crispin (ˈkrɪspɪn) *n* Saint, 3rd century AD, legendary
Roman Christian martyr, with his brother **Crispian**
(krɪˈspɪniən): they are the patron saints of shoemakers.
Feast day: Oct. 25

crispy (ˈkrɪspi) *adj* crispier, crispiest 1 crisp 2 having
waves or curls > **crispiness** *n*

crisscross (ˈkrɪs,kɪks) *vb* 1 to move or cause to move in a
crosswise pattern 2 to mark with or consist of a pattern
of crossing lines > *adj* 3 (esp of lines) crossing one
another in different directions > *n* 4 a pattern made of
crossing lines > *adv* 5 in a crosswise manner or pattern

crit. *abbrev for*: 1 *med* critical 2 criticism

criterion (kraɪˈtɪəriən) *n*, *pl* criteria (-rɪə) or **criteria** a
standard by which something can be judged or decided
[c17 from Gk *kritērion*, from *kritēs* judge, from *krinein* to
decide]

USAGE *Criteria*, the plural of *criterion*, is
occasionally mistakenly used as a
singular noun: *this criterion is not valid*; these
criteria are not valid

critic (ˈkrɪtɪk) *n* 1 a person who judges something 2 a
professional judge of art, music, literature, etc 3 a
person who often finds fault and criticizes [c16 from L
criticus, from Gk *kritikos* capable of judging, from *kritēs*
judge; see CRITERION]

critical (ˈkrɪtɪkəl) *adj* 1 containing or making severe or
negative judgments 2 containing analytical
evaluations 3 of a critic or criticism 4 of or forming a
crisis; crucial 5 urgently needed 6 *inf* so seriously
injured or ill as to be in danger of dying 7 *physics* of,
denoting, or concerned with a state in which the
properties of a system undergo an abrupt change 8 *go*
critical (of a nuclear power station or reactor) to reach a
state in which a nuclear-fission chain reaction becomes
self-sustaining > **criti'cality** *n* > **'critically** *adv*
> **'criticalness** *n*

critical mass *n* the minimum mass of fissionable
material that can sustain a nuclear chain reaction

critical path analysis *n* a technique for planning
projects with reference to the critical path, which is the
sequence of stages requiring the longest time

critical temperature *n* the temperature of a substance
in its critical state. A gas can only be liquefied at
temperatures below this

criticism (ˈkrɪtɪ,sɪzəm) *n* 1 the act or an instance of
making an unfavourable or severe judgment, comment,
etc 2 the analysis or evaluation of a work of art,
literature, etc 3 the occupation of a critic 4 a work that
sets out to evaluate or analyse

criticize or **criticise** (ˈkrɪtɪ,səɪz) *vb* criticizes, criticizing,
criticized or criticises, criticising, criticised 1 to judge
(something) with disapproval; censure 2 to evaluate or
analyse (something) > **'criti,cizable** or **'criti,cisable** *adj*
> **'criti,cizer** or **'criti,ciser** *n*

critique (krɪˈtɪk) *n* 1 a critical essay or commentary, esp
of an artistic work 2 the act or art of criticizing [c17

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lj, adv 1 to be played
; **2** a piece to be
quickly, from *presto*

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anticipation, from *praesumere* to take beforehand; see
PRESUME]

presumptive (pri:'zʌmptiv) *adj* **1** based on presumption
or probability **2** affording reasonable ground for belief
> **pre'sumptively** *adv*

presumptuous (pri:'zʌmptjuəs) *adj* characterized by
presumption or tending to presume; bold; forward
> **pre'sumptuously** *adv* > **pre'sumptuousness** *n*

presuppose (,pri:sə'pəʊz) *vb* **presupposes**,
presupposing, **presupposed** (tr) **1** to take for granted
2 to require as a necessary prior condition

> **presupposition** (,pri:sə'pəʊzɪʃən) *n*

preteen (pri:'ti:n) *n* a boy or girl approaching his or her
teens

pretence or US **pretense** (pri:'tens) *n* **1** the act of
pretending **2** a false display; affectation **3** a claim, esp a
false one, to a right, title, or distinction **4** make-believe
5 a pretext

pretend (pri:'tend) *vb* **1** (when tr, usually takes a clause as
object or an infinitive) to claim or allege (something untrue)
2 (tr; may take a clause as object or an infinitive) to make
believe, as in a play: you pretend to be Ophelia **3** (intr; foll by
to) to present a claim, esp a dubious one: to pretend to the
throne **4** (intr; foll by to) obs to aspire as a candidate or
suitor (for) ▷ **adj** **5** make-believe; imaginary [c14 from L
praetendere to stretch forth, feign]

pretender (pri:'tenda) *n* **1** a person who pretends or
makes false allegations **2** a person who mounts a claim,
as to a throne or title

pretension (pri:'tenʃən) *n* **1** (often pl) a false claim, esp to
merit, worth, or importance **2** a specious or unfounded
allegation; pretext **3** the quality of being pretentious

pretentious (pri:'tenʃəs) *adj* **1** making claim to
distinction or importance, esp undeservedly
2 ostentatious > **pre'tentiously** *adv* > **pre'tentiousness** *n*

preterite or esp US **preterit** ('pre'terɪt) *grammar* ▷ **n** **1** a
tense of verbs used to relate past action, formed in
English by inflection of the verb, as *jumped*, *swam* **2** a verb
in this tense ▷ **adj** **3** denoting this tense [c14 from LL
praeteritum (tempus) past (time), from L *praeterire* to go by,
from *preter-* beyond + *ire* to go]

preterm (pri:'tɜ:m) *adj* **1** (of a baby) born prematurely
▷ **adv** **2** prematurely

pretermitt (,pri:tə'mɪt) *vb* **pretermits**, **pretermitting**,
pretermitted (tr) **rare** **1** to disregard **2** to fail to do;
neglect; omit [c16 from L *praetermittere* to let pass, from
preter- beyond + *mittere* to send]

preternatural (,pri:tə'nætʃrəl) *adj* **1** beyond what is
ordinarily found in nature; abnormal **2** another word
for **supernatural** [c16 from Med. L *praeternaturalis*, from L
praeter naturam beyond the scope of nature]
> **pre'ternaturally** *adv*

pretext ('pri:tekst) *n* **1** a fictitious reason given in order
to conceal the real one **2** a pretence [c16 from L
praetextum disguise, from *praetexere* to weave in front,
disguise]

pretor ('pri:tə, -tɔ:) *n* a variant (esp US) spelling of
praetor

Pretoria (pri:'tɔ:riə) *n* a city in N South Africa, the
administrative capital of South Africa; formerly capital
of Transvaal province: two universities (1873, 1930);
large steelworks. Pop (urban area): 1 104 479 (1996)
▷ www.ccp.co.za
▷ www.visitpretoria.co.za
▷ www.sa-venues.com/gauteng_pretoria.htm

Pretorius (pri:'tɔ:riəs) *n* **1** Andries Wilhelmus Jacobus
('andri:s wil'helmys ja:'kə:bys) 1799–1853, a Boer leader
in the Great Trek (1838) to escape British sovereignty; he
also led an expedition to the Transvaal (1848). The town
Pretoria was named after him **2** his son, **Marthinus**
Wessels (mar'ti:nys 'wesəls) 1819–1901, first president of
the South African Republic (1857–71) and of the Orange
Free State (1859–63)

prettify ('prɪtɪ,faɪ) *vb* **prettifies**, **prettifying**, **prettified**
(tr) to make pretty, esp in a trivial fashion; embellish
> **prettifi'cation** *n* > **pretti,fier** *n*

pretty ('prɪtɪ) *adj* **prettier**, **prettiest** **1** pleasing or
appealing in a delicate or graceful way **2** dainty, neat,
or charming **3** inf, often ironical excellent, grand, or fine:
here's a pretty mess! **4** commendable; good of its kind: he
replied with a pretty wit **5** in effeminate; foppish **6** arch or
Scot vigorous or brave **7** sitting pretty inf well placed or
established financially, socially, etc ▷ *n*, pl **pretties** **8** a
pretty person or thing ▷ *adv* inf **9** fairly; somewhat
10 very ▷ *vb* **pretties**, **prettying**, **prettied** **11** (tr; often foll
by up) to make pretty; adorn [OE *prættig* clever] > **'prettily**
adv > **'prettiness** *n*

pretty-pretty *adj* inf excessively or ostentatiously
pretty: a pretty-pretty village

pretzel ('pretsəl) *n* a brittle savoury biscuit, in the form
of a knot or stick, eaten esp in Germany and the US [c19
from G, from OHG *brezizella*]

Preussen ('prɔysən) *n* the German name for Prussia
prevail (pri:'veil) *vb* (intr) **1** (often foll by over or against) to
prove superior; gain mastery: skill will prevail **2** to be the
most important feature; be prevalent **3** to exist widely;
be in force **4** (often foll by on or upon) to succeed in
persuading or inducing [c14 from L *praevalēre* to be
superior in strength] > **pre'vailer** *n*

prevailing (pri:'veilɪŋ) *adj* **1** generally accepted;
widespread: the prevailing opinion **2** most frequent;
predominant: the prevailing wind is from the north
> **pre'vailingly** *adv*

prevalent ('prevlənt) *adj* **1** widespread or current
2 superior in force or power; predominant > **'prevalence**
n > **'prevalently** *adv*

prevaricate (pri:'væri,keɪt) *vb* **prevaricates**,
prevaricating, **prevaricated** (intr) to speak or act falsely
or evasively with intent to deceive [c16 from L
praevaricārī to walk crookedly, from *prae* beyond + *varicare*
to straddle the legs] > **pre,vari'cation** *n* > **pre'vari,cator**
n

prevent (pri:'vent) *vb* **1** (tr) to keep from happening, esp
by taking precautionary action **2** (tr; often foll by from) to
keep (someone from doing something) **3** (intr) to
interpose or act as a hindrance **4** (tr) arch to anticipate or
precede [c15 from L *praevenīre*, from *prae* before + *venīre* to
come] > **pre'ventable** or **pre'ventible** *adj* > **pre'ventably** or
pre'ventibly *adv*

prevention (pri:'venʃən) *n* **1** the act of preventing **2** a
hindrance or impediment

preventive (pri:'ventiv) *adj* **1** tending or intended to
prevent or hinder **2** med tending to prevent disease;
prophylactic **3** (in Britain) of, relating to, or belonging
to the customs and excise service or the coastguard ▷ *n*
4 something that serves to prevent or hinder **5** med any
drug or agent that tends to prevent disease. Also (for
senses 1, 2, 4, 5): **preventative** > **pre'ventively** or
pre'ventatively *adv*

USAGE Preventive is generally used in
preference to preventative in medical
contexts and otherwise, and is about twice
as common in the Bank of English. Overall,
preventative is much less frequent in
American than in British sources

Prévert (French prever) *n* Jacques (ʒak) 1900–77, Parisian
poet, satirist, and writer of film scripts, noted esp for his
song poems. He was a member of the surrealist group
from 1925 to 1929

preview ('pri:vju:) *n* **1** an advance view or sight **2** an
advance showing before public presentation of a film,
art exhibition, etc, usually before an invited audience
▷ *vb* **3** (tr) to view in advance

Previn ('previn) *n* André ('bndrei) born 1929, US
orchestral conductor, born in Germany; living in
Britain

Pp